Christmas Bird Count

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

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The Chat

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THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

Organized March 6, 1937, for the study and protection of our birds. Membership is open to those interested in this work, and is divided into four classes: Active Members, who pay dues of $1.00 per year; Sustaining Members, dues of $5.00 a year; Contributing Members, dues of $25.00 a year; Life Members, one lump sum of $100.00.

Nominations and applications for membership should be sent to the Treasurer, Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, 6 Springdale Court, Greensboro, N. C.

A Nature Center

"Then the little Hiawatha
Learned of every bird its language,
Learned their names and all their secrets,
How they built their nests in Summer,
Where they hid themselves in Winter,
Talked with them whene'er he met them,
Called them Hiawatha's Chickens.

"Of all the beasts he learned the language,
Learned their names and all their secrets,
How the beavers built their lodges,
Where the squirrels hid their acorns,
How the reindeer ran so swiftly,
Why the rabbit was so timid,
Talked with them whene'er he met them,
Called them Hiawatha's brothers."

What a wonderful enviroment was Hiawatha's! In the hope that modern Hiawathas may enjoy the heritage that belongs to them, I have recommended that the North Carolina Bird Club provide an area somewhere near the central part of the State that will be protected and preserved for young and old to observe, study and enjoy. In this industrial age the lovers of nature must be alert if our natural resources are to be conserved.

Some members of the Club have asked that I define "nature center." I shall give my ideas briefly with the hope that others will contribute ideas and suggestions that will eventually materialize.

First, let me say that the area should be left just as natural as possible. This eliminates the necessity of spending a large sum of money. It should be near enough to a city or town to be easily accessible. There should be wooded hills and lowlands, marshy places, open fields, streams, a pond or lake, a variety of soil, rocks, trees, shrubs, plants, animals and birds. A suitable spot for an open fireplace and an overnight camp is desirable.

I suggest that local clubs look around for desirable areas, approach the owner of the property to interest him in the project and get his consent for the Club to use it as a center for observation and study. The plan of operation should meet the approval of the property owner. The local club would make recommendation to the North Carolina Bird Club and a Nature Center Board would be appointed or elected to formulate plans. The local club would not have the responsibility of the Center, but should have a representative on the Board.

The area would be used by groups under capable leadership approved by the Board. All groups would be expected to make records of their observations. These would be added to the files of *The Chat*.

No building would be erected now and no planting would be necessary. Natural trails would lead to interesting spots as: where the hepatica grows; where the wood thrush sings; where to find minature waterfalls, wading pools, and swimming holes.

Build up a reserve fund and as interest grows and funds are available a simple structure may be erected, not for a museum, but a meeting place for study groups and executive meetings.

This may sound visionary and impossible but I believe we can do it if we really appreciate our natural resources and are interested in protecting them for future generations. There is no finer contribution that we could make to the youth of our State, so let's unite our interest and efforts to make it possible.

CLARA HEARNE, President North Carolina Bird Club

Annual Christmas Bird Count, 1945

We received from members of the North Carolina Bird Club complete Christmas counts from fourteen localities, including Asheville, Chapel Hill, Charlotte, Elkin, Fayetteville, Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Tenn.), Greensboro, Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge, (New Holland, N. C.), Mount Olive, Raleigh, Washington, Wilmington, Windom, and Winston-Salem. The fourteen localities reported 123 different species and subspecies of birds, which is about a dozen more than last years' total. In species counts, Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge leads with 64 species. Raleigh is second with 63 species. Wilmington, a newcomer this year in our Christmas counts, is third with a total of 61 species, and is closely followed by four other groups, Greensboro with 60 species, Asheville and Chapel Hill with 57 species each, and Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Tenn.), which reports 56 species. This is considerable less than the high counts of 75 and 73 reported in past years, and the chief reason is probably the extreme cold weather and the snow and sleet which extended over most of the region during the two weeks previous to the count.

We are glad to see the names of some of the "old timers" back among the lists of observers, among others, Joe Briggs at Washington, Howard T. Odum at Chapel Hill, and Bill Anderson at Winston-Salem. Robert H. Witherington, also recently separated from the U. S. service, sends a good list from Elkin. The well organized plans of the new Asheville Bird Club, under their president Capt. W. A. Angwin, for this count, deserve special mention. An area of Buncombe county was mapped in a 15 mile circle about Asheville. The entire circle was divided into 15 sectors and a chair-

man was placed in charge of the count in each sector. They had extremely good assistance from their local press in publicizing the count, with the result that sixty-six people participated.

Wilmington reports 8 American Egrets, apparently reported in 1944 for the first time in winter in North Carolina; a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher is reported at Asheville, possibly the first North Carolina winter record west of Rocky Mount; an Orange-crowned Warbler was reported at Chapel Hill; Joe Biggs at Washington lists 2 Palm Warblers and Raleigh lists 4; a Least Tern and a Black Tern are reported at Wilmington. Three Pigeon Hawks are reported at Asheville, which would likely make a winter record for our state museum if one were taken in the flesh; Asheville also reports a Yellow Warbler and a Redstart, which are still farther out of their range for this season of the year. Brown Thrashers are reported in small numbers from seven of the localities, Wilmington reporting 12. Chipping Sparrows were observed at Asheville, Washington, and Wilmington.

Robins and Cedar Waxwings were apparently considerable scarcer than usual for this time of the year. Pine Warblers, too, as several observers had reported earlier this winter, seem much scarcer than in recent winters. Red-breasted Nuthatches, while apparently not abundant, were apparently more widespread than they were at the time of the 1944 winter count. Pipits were apparently a little commoner than last year, but neither Pipits nor Pine Siskins approached their number in the 1943 count.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.—(From Beaver Lake south to Rosscraggon, and from Dyrman mountain east to Bee Tree Road; open farmland 15%, town suburbs 35%, pine woodland 15% deciduous woodland 10% pine and deciduous woodland 10%; lake and stream banks 14%; marsh 1%). Dec. 29—7:30 A. M. to 5:30 P. M. Overcast until 9:30, then scattered clouds till noon, afternoon clear, temp. 38°-52°F.; wind NE., 1-7 m. p. m.; ground covered with melting snow and slush, all fresh water ponds frozen except for very small areas. Unseasonal sleet and ice storm Dec. 24 followed by noticeable diminution of birds. Sixty-six observers in 28 parties. total hours, 113 (110 on foot, 3 in car); total miles 98 (80 on foot, 18 in car). Mallard, 9; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Pigeon Hawks, 3; Sparrow Hawk, 3; Ruffed Grouse, 3; Bobwhite, 36; Wild Turkey, 1; Killdeer, 1 (heard at close range where many have been seen in fall.—G. S. T.); Mourning Dove, 94; Screech Owl, 1; Great Horned Owl, 1 (8 p. m.); Kingfisher, 2; Flicker, 26; Pileated Woodpecker, 5; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 7; Downy Woodpecker, 70; Phoebe, 2; Blue Jay, 101; Crow 189; Chickadee (?) 240; Tufted Titmouse, 197; White-breasted Nuthatch, 101; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 18; Brown Creeper, 16; Winter Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 85; Mockingbird, 19; Robin 24; Hermit Thrush, 6; Bluebird 127; Bluegray Gnatcatcher, 1 (one seen in garden, recognized by color, action, white edged tail.—O. C.; one seen on window ledge but not absolutely recognized.—L. M. I.); Golden-crowned Kinglet, 48; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 13; Cedar Waxwing, 7; Starling, 140; Yellow Warbler, 1; Myrtle Warbler, 77; Pine Warbler, 4; Redstart, 1; English Sparrow, 577; Cardinal, 123; Purple Finch, 174; Redpoll, 2 (reported by D. W. G.); Pine Siskin, 40; Goldfiich, 211; Towhee, 36;

Junco (sp?), 485; Savannah Sparrow, 7; Tree Sparrow, 14; Chipping Sparrow, 32; Field Sparrow, 65; White-throated Sparrow, 84; Fox Sparrow, 6; Song Sparrow, 190. Total, 57 species; 3622 individuals. (Seen in Rosscraggon, Dec. 24: 3 Pileated Woodpeckers.—D. W. G.)—W. S. Adams, W. A. Angwin, Elsie Angwin, Mary L. Atkins, H. K. Branch, Lillian Burdette, Lon Butler, H. K. Caskey, Mrs. R. T. Cecil, Odessa Chambers, G. L. Clement, Miss Decker, R. M. Dicosola, Frances Dicosola, John Edmonston, Richard Edmonston, Andrew Ficken, Charles Ficken, Eleanor Field, Vance Field, Dodette W. Grinnell, D. P. Harris, Annette Hinds, Louise M. Ingersoll, Frances Johnson, Mrs. E. S. Koon, D. W. Lacy, Nita Lacy, Lucinda Lacy, Miss Lawler, Miss Lineberger, H. A. Lytle, Nicholas McCabe, Sheila McCabe, J. N. McCabe, Mrs. J. N. McCabe, G. H. Mahy, C. M. Maske, Betty Maske, Mrs. C. A. Maxwell, Mrs. M. F. Meredith, Nancy Meredith, Margaret Millard, Bobby Miller, Jack Mulvaney, Mrs. J. J. Murray, Sophia Redwood, R. H. Rembert, Rapheal Rice, Mrs. C. D. Richmond, Bobby Ruiz, Mrs. E. B. Ruiz, Sgt. W. N. Ruiz G. S. Tennent, W. H. Thorn, Barbara Thorn, Alice Ward, James White, Mrs. Fannie Crowell, Paul Knollman, Miss Caroline Crowell, Miss Marcia Williams, Miss Gloria DeVore, Ray Hill, Charles McCullogh, and Kenneth Lingerfelt.

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.—(Same area as in last 15 years; oak-hickory climax 30% low ground thickets and farmland 30%, pine forest 10%, marsh and lake shores 30%). Dec. 28, 5:30 A. M. to 5:30 P. M. Overcast low stratus with light continuous rain all day; wind NE, 13-18 m. p. h.; temp. 36°-48° F.; few ice sheets on lake. 6 observers in 4 parties in A. M.; 4 observers in 2 parties in P. M. Total hours, 19 on foot; total miles, 22 on foot. Mallard, 16; Black Duck, 49; Gadwall, 4; Green-winged Teal, 1; Redhead, 1; Ring-neck duck, 1; Bufflehead, 11; American Merganser, 4; Turkey Vulture, 2; Hawk (accipiter sp?,)2; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 8; Wild Turkey, 1; Mourning Dove, 20; Barred Owl, 1; Flicker, 14; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 4; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 8; Phoebe, 16; Blue Jay, 35; Crow, 52; Chickadee, 27; Titmouse, 29; White-breasted Nuthatch, 9; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 2; Brown Creeper, 6; Carolina Wren, 33; Mockingbird, 10; Hermit Thrush, 5; Bluebird, 60; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 20; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 12; American Pipit, 6; Shrike, 2; Starling, 37; Orange-crowned Warbler, 1 (also observed at feeding station during previous week—Mrs. H. W. W.); Myrtle Warbler, 11; Pine Warbler, 8; English Sparrow, 20; Meadowlark, 8; Red-wing, 100 (est); Cardinal, 58; Purple Finch, 2; Pine Siskin, 20; Goldfinch, 76; Towhee, 9; Junco, 208; Field Sparrow, 37; White-throated Sparrow, 195; Fox Sparrow, 10; Swamp Sparrow, 19; Song Sparrow, 71. Total, 57 species; 1365 individuals. (Seen in area Dec 27: Red-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Brown Thrasher, 2.)—H. T. Odum, J. P. Jones, Mrs. H. W. Walters, M. Whittinghill, Mrs. M. Whittinghill, Mrs. Ove Jensen, P. Lawrence.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—(Two areas: along Briar Creek adjacent to the southeastern city limits; around headwaters of McAlpine creek, seven miles southeast of city, plus Clarkson city garden; pine gum, poplar woodland 60%; suburbs 25%; farmland 10%, small ponds 5%.) Dec. 30—7:30 A. M. to 5:30 P. M. Cloudy, Wind 1-7 m. p. h., temp. 44°-50° F. Five observers, in two parties. Total hours, 10 (9 on foot); total miles, 7 (on foot). Turkey Vulture, 4; Black Vulture, 4; Bob-white, 6; Mourning Dove, 23; Flicker, 3; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Blue Jay, 34; Crow, 25; Chickadee, 8; Tufted Titmouse, 8; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 3; Carolina Wren, 5; Mockingbird, 8; Brown Thrasher, 3; Hermit Thrush, 1; Bluebird, 11; Goldencrowned Kinglet, 1; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 3; Shrike, 2; Starling, 135; Myrtle Warbler, 3; Pine Warbler, 5; English Sparrow, 37; Meadowlark, 5; Cardinal, 21; Goldfinch, 6; Towhee, 9; Savannah Sparrow, 6; Junco, 77; Field Sparrow, 22; White-throated Sparrow, 31; Song Sparrow, 23.

Total, 36 species, 540 individuals.—Mrs. E. O. Clarkson, Mrs. Jack F. Dermid, Jim Layton, Binford Moon, B. Rhett Chamberlain. (Members of the Mecklenburg Audubon Club.)

KLONDIKE FARM, ELKIN, N. C.—(Observation time spent included pasture land 10%, cultivated fields 30%, oak-hickory forest 40%, pine forest 20%.) Dec. 29—8:00 A. M.-3:00 P. M. Overcast from 8:00 A. M. to 9:30 A. M., fair from 9:30 A. M. on. No wind, temp. 35°-55° F. Ground two-thirds covered with snow. One observer. Total hours, 7. Total miles 5 on foot. Black Vulture, 7; Bob-white, 17; Killdeer, 3; Kingfisher, 1; Flicker, 1; Downy Woodpecker,2; Phoebe,1; Prairie Horned Lark, 80 (est.); Crow, 40 (est.); Chickadee, 35; Tufted Titmouse, 10; White-breasted Nuthatch, 15; Brown Creeper, 3; Carolina Wren,13; Hermit Thrush, 1; Bluebird, 7; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 10; Starling,25 (est.); Mytlre Warbler,1; Pine Warbler, 1; English Sparrow, 75(est.); Meadowlark, 75 (est.); Cardinal, 15; Goldfinch, 10; Junco, 30; Field Sparrow, 15; White-throated Sparrow, 4; Fox Sparrow, 2; Song Sparrow, 5. Total 29 species, approximately 504 individuals. (Observed in area Dec. 26, 2 Vesper Sparrows and on Dec. 24, 1 Winter Wren.)—Robert H. Witherington.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.—(Area in and adjacent to Fayetteville; woodland bordering pond 50%; open fields 30%; garden areas 20%.) Dec. 30.—8:30 A. M. to 12:30 P. M. and 2:30 to 5:30 P. M. Heavy overcast; light breeze; temp. 44°-48°F.; Mileage: car 8 miles, on foot, 5 miles. Great Blue Heron, 1; Kingfisher, 1; Flicker, 4; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 6; Crow, 13; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Carolina Wren, 4; Mockingbird, 4; Brown Thrasher, 1; Hermit Thrush, 4; Bluebird, 21; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 18; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 1; Cedar Waxwing, 18; Shrike, 2; Starling, 2; Myrtle Warbler, 1; English Sparrow, 37; Meadowlark, 69; Red-wing, 44; Cardinal, 7; Purple Finch, 13; Goldfinch, 4; Towhee, 4; Vesper Sparrow, 6; Junco, 40; Field Sparrow, 20; White-throated Sparrow, 44; Swamp Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 10. Total, 33 species, 408 individuals.—Virgil Kelly, Roy Rush, Richard Sloss.

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK, TENN.—(Same area as in past eight years; circle of 7½ miles radius centering on Bull Head of Mt. LeConte, including a section of the Tennessee-North Carolina divide from Indian Gap to Mt. Kephart; towns of Gatlingburg and Pigeon Forge; spruce-fir forest 30%, deciduous forest 15%, orchard 15%, open farmland and field borders 20%, abandoned fields 5%, stream courses 5%, towns and suburbs 10%). Dec. 30—7 A. M. to 4 P. M. Overcast and becoming threatening in A. M., light rain developing in early P. M., and continuing into the night; temp. 38 degrees to 50 degrees F.; wind mostly light and variable; ground bare up to altitude of approximately 3500 feet, snow-covered at higher elevations with snow blanket measuring 13 in, at 5000 feet. Altitude range 1200 to 6100 feet. Twenty-seven observers in seven parties. Total party hours, 39; total miles, 130 (85 by car, 45 on foot). Black Duck, 4; Turkey Vulture, 30; Black Vluture, 5; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Duck Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 3; Ruffed Grouse, 6; Bobwhite, 12 (covey); Wild Turkey, 2; Killdeer, 10; Wilson's Snipe, 1; Mourning Dove, 110; Kingfisher, 1; Flicker, 5; Pileated Woodpecker, 5; Hairy Woodpecker, 6; Downy Woodpecker, 10; Phoebe, 2; Horned Lark, 16; Blue Jay, 11; Crow, 150 (est.); Chickadee (both black-apped and Carolina observed), 98; Tufted Titmouse, 22; White-Breasted Nuthatch, 3; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 13; Brown Creeper, 9; Winter Wren, 9; Carolina Wren, 8; Mockingbird, 6; Brown Thrasher, 2; Robin, 97; Hermit Thrush, 19; Bluebird, 25; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 45; Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, 8; Cedar Waxwing, 1; Starling, 33; Myrtle Warbler, 3; English Sparrow, 72; Meadowlark, 22; Red-wing, 6; Cowbird, 60; Cardinal, 49; Purple Finch, 25; Goldfinch, 54; Red Crossbill, 9;

Towhee, 14; Vesper Sparrow, 1; Junco (both Slate-colored and Carolina observed), 170; Field Sparrow, 81; White-throated Sparrow, 53; Swamp Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 32. Total, 56 species and sub-species; approximately 1442 individuals. (Seen in area Dec. 27: Great Blue Heron, 1; Dec. 29: Fox Sparrow, 1. Tracks of Raven were observed in snow on day count was made and one or two birds were seen on several days durng the month.)—Fred W. Behrend, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Broome, Warren Burgus, Mary Ruth Chiles, Brockway Crouch, Thomas W. Finucane, Robert Garber, Ralph Garrett, Harry Henry, Dr. Lee Roy Herndon, Elizabeth Johnson, William M. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Leonhard, Henri Levy, Charlton Mabry, James R. Mattocks, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Odell, Jr., Winifred Odell, W. F. Pearson, Herbert Pomerance, Arthur Stupka, Roy A. Wedekind, Dr. Dorothy E. Williams, William Yambert (members and guests, Tennessee Ornithological Society and National Park Service.)

GREENSBORO, N. C.—(Section 15 miles across; approximately same region as last several years, including Pinecroft, Starmount, Municipal Golf Course, the Richardson estate, Greensboro Country Park, Lakes Brandt, Scales, and Richland—New Lake, Philadelphia, Buffalo, and White Oak Ponds; deciduous and mixed woodland 25%, open fields and golf courses 30%, cattail marsh and thicket 15%, small freshwater lakes 20%, and city yards, parkways, and campuses 10%.) Dec. 26—8:00 A. M. to 5:30 P. M. During the two weeks previous the temperature had been well below freezing much of the time and ice to a depth of two inches covered most of the ponds (so few water birds were observed); during the week before Christmas about four inches of snow fell and this was covered with sleet, but a shower on the afternoon of the day before the count melted some of the snow and ice; there was a heavy fog until about noon, when the sky cleared; temp. 33 to 49 degrees. Twenty two observers, mostly in nine parties. Total hours, 50½; total miles, 28½ on foot, 25 in car. Black Duck, 2; Wood Duck, 1; Lesser Scaup, 7; Bufflehead, 1; Turkey Vulture, 82; Black Vulture, 7; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Red-shouldered Hawk, 3; Marsh Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 3; Bobwhite, 34; Killdeer, 5; Wilson's Snipe, 1; Mourning Dove, 146; Screech Owl, 1; Kingfisher, 4; Flicker, 17; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 3; Red-headed Woodpecker, 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 15; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Down Woodpecker, 26; Phoebe, 4; Horned Lark, 5; Blue Jay, 131; Crow, 265; Chickadee, 147; Tufted Titmouse, 74; White-breasted Nuthatch, 44; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 31; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 3; Brown Creeper, 4; Winter Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 56; Mockingbird, 82; Brown Thrasher, 2; Robin, 4; Hermit Thrush, 9; Bluebird, 96; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 20; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 25; Shrike, 6; Starling, 6,930 (est.); Myrtle Warbler, 4; Pine Warbler, 8; English Sparrow, 298; Meadowlark, 19; Red-wing, 2; Cowbird, 1; Cardinal, 135; Purple Finch, 17; Goldfinch, 49; Towhee, 50; Junco, 1,255; Field Sparrow, 235; White-throated Sparrow, 339; Fox Sparrow, 3; Swamp Sparrow, 3; Song Sparrow, 234. Total, 60 species; approximately 10,959 individuals. The following species were observed during the week before the count: Mallard (Dec. 23); Ring-necked Duck (Dec. 23); Wild Turkey (Dec. 25); Pileated Woodpecker (Dec. 25); Vesper Sparrow (Dec. 23).—John Carr, Miss Inez Coldwell, Bobby Carroll, Bill Craft, Mrs. Floyd Hugh Craft, Mrs. Robert D. Douglas, Raymond Kaighn, Hewitt Kendrick, Hugh Medford, Hugh Medford, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Perrett, Robert L. Pyle, Bill and Moses Scarborough, Miss Etta Schiffman, Mrs. Edith Settan, Mrs. R. E. Settan, Archie D. Shaftesbury (compiler), George A. Smith (members and guests of the Piedmont Bird Club.)

MOUNT OLIVE, N. C.—(Area from Mt. Olive to Seven Springs; mixed woods 35%; small ponds 5%, fields and pastures 50%, residential area 10%.) Dec. 30. Very cloudy all day, wind S., 3-5 m. p. h., temp. 40°-46° F.; grain fields, water open. Two observers, mostly together. Total hours, 8; total miles, riding 29, on foot 6. Ring-necked Duck, 6; Turkey Vulture, 3; Black Vulture, 5; Sharp-shinned

Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 3; Sparrow Hawk, 4; Bobwhite, 6; Killdeer, 5; Dove, 14; Kingfisher, 1; Flicker, 4; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 5; Red-headed Woodpecker, 3; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Phoebe, 1; Blue Jay, 12; Crow, 2; Chickadee, 9; Tufted Titmouse, 7; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Carolina Wren, 5; Mockingbird, 11; Catbird, 2; Brown Thrasher, 1; Robin, 16; Hermit Thrush, 3; Bluebird, 15; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 4; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 2; Shrike, 11; Starling, 40 (est.); Myrtle Warbler, 60 (est.); English Sparrow, 200 (est.); Meadowlark, 54; Red-winged Blackbird, 75 (est.); Cardinal, 13; Purple Finch, 12; Goldfinch, 14; Towhee, 10; Junco, 40 (est.); Field Sparrow, 20 (est.); White-throated Sparrow, 40 (est.); Fox Sparrow, 2; Song Sparrow, 3. Total 47 species, approximately 750 individuals.—R. P. Holmes II, and R. P. Holmes III.

MATTAMUSKEET NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, NEW HOLLAND, N. C.—(Same area as 1940 and subsequent counts; Mattamuskeet Refuge and adjacent woods and fields; including public road across the Lake; marsh 30%, open water 40%, fields and thickets 20%, pine and cypress woods 10%.) Dec. 29—7:30 A. M. to 5:30 P. M. Cloudy, ground bare, wind W. to N.W. approximately 10 m.p.h.; temp. 35° to 59° F. Two observers, 2 until noon, one in afternoon. Total hours afield, 10; total miles 26 by car, 6 on foot. Pied-billed Grebe, 2; Great Blue Heron, 9; Whistling Swan, 1,165; Canada Goose, 13,165 (partly est.); Mallard, 40; Black Duck, 165; Baldpate, 29; Pintails, 4,200 (partly est.); Ruddy Duck,2; Hooded Merganser, 4; Green-winged Teal, 16; Shoveller, 3; Wood Duck, 4; Turkey Vulture, 27; Black Vulture, 10; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2; Cooper's Hawk, 3; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Bald Eagle, 9; Marsh Hawk, 6; Sparrow Hawk, 3; Bobwhite, 22; Killdeer, 3; Lesser Yellow-legs, 6; Herring Gull, 4; Laughing Gull, 6; Ring-billed Gull, 3; Mourning Dove, 55; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Flicker, 16; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Phoebe, 2; Wood Pewee, 2; Tree Swallow, 22; Crow, 45; Fish Crow, 14; Chickadee, 4; Carolina Wren, 4; Mockingbird, 5; Catbird, 9; Brown Thrasher, 6; Robin, 150; Hermit Thrush, 3; Cedar Waxwing, 16; Starling, 75; Myrtle Warbler, 445; English Sparrow, 15; Meadowlark, 32; Redwing, 2200 (partly est.); Purple Grackle, 56; Cardinal, 10; Goldfinch, 6; Red-eyed Towee, 7; Junco, 5; Tree Sparrow, 4; Field Sparrow, 3; White-throated Sparrow, 17; Fox Sparrow, 7; Swamp Sparrow, 5; Song Sparrow, 3. Total 64 species; 22,185 individuals.—Willie G. Cahoon and Edward J. McKinney.

RALEIGH, N. C.—(Practically same area as previous counts: lakes and small ponds 40%, mixed pine and deciduous woodland 15%, deciduous woodland 10%, open fields 10%.) Dec. 26—8:30-5:30, cloudy until 10:30 A. M., fair rest of day, wind NW, varying from 1-12 m. p. h. in A. M., calm in P. M.; temp. 40° to 60° F.; ground bare, water open, except some ice in sheltered places. Fifteen observers in five parties. Total hours, 26 (23 on foot, 3 by car); total miles, 35 (27 on foot, 8 by car). Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Great Blue Heron, 3; Mallard, 6; Black Duck, 6; Gadwall, 1; Redhead, 2; Ring-necked Duck, 80; Lesser Scaup Duck, 20; Bufflehead, 3; Ruddy Duck, 2; Hooded Merganser, 19; Turkey Vulture, 16; Black Vulture, 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2; Cooper's Hawk, 3; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Red-shouldered Hawk, 3; Marsh Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 4; Bobwhite, 9; Killdeer, 6; Woodcock, 1; Dove, 33; Kingfisher, 4; Flicker, 16; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 3; Red-headed Woodpecker, 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Blue Jay, 38; Crow, 46; Chickadee, 43; Tufted Titmouse, 21; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 5; Brown Creeper, 1; Winter Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 33; Mockingbird, 12; Brown Thrasher, 1; Robin, 6; Hermit Thrush, 4; Bluebird, 11; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 42; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 8; Cedar Waxwing, 10; Shrike, 6; Starling, 281; Myrtle Warbler, 8; Pine Warbler, 4; Palm Warbler, 5; English Sparrow, 3; Meadowlark, 37; Cardinal, 20;

Purple Finch, 16; Goldfinch, 13; Towhee, 29; Junco, 185; Field Sparrow, 32; White-throated Sparrow, 121; Fox Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 112. Total 63 species; 1407 individuals.—D. L. Wray, C. S. Brimley, F. B. Meachem, E. W. Winkler, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Green, G. M. Garren, C. H. Bostian, Roxie and Grimmer Simpson, Norman and Jimmie McCulloch, Robt. Cooper, Clyde Bryan, Miss V. Pickell.

WASHINGTON, N. C.—(Same area covered in previous counts; river shore 25%, field borders and hedge rows 60%, open fields 5%, mature deciduous and pine woods mixed 10%.) Dec. 26—8:00 A. M. to 1:00 P. M. and 2:30 P. M. to 5:30 P. M. Fair all day; temp. 46°-56°; southwest wind, steady in A. M. at 8-12 mph., decreasing in P. M.; SE storm warnings up in A. M. Ground bare; water open. One observer. Total hours, 8; total miles 8 (on foot.) Black Vulture, 1; Cooper's (?) Hawk, 2; Bobwhite, 1; Killdeer, 11; Ring-billed Gull, 30; Mourning Dove, 28; Barred Owl, 1; Flicker, 6; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Phoebe, 3; Horned Lark, 30; Blue Jay, 3; Crow, 8; Chickadee, 1; Tufted Titmouse, 5; Nuthatch (sp?), 1; Brown Creeper, 1; Carolina Wren, 15; Mockingbird, 2; Robin, 45; Hermit Thrush, 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Shrike, 3; Starling, 13; Myrtle Warbler, 61; Palm Warbler, 2; English Sparrow, 37; Meadowlark, 160; Rusty Blackbird, 10; Cardinal, 4; Goldfiinch, 6; Towhee, 11; Savannah Sparrow, 5; Junco, 82; Chipping Sparrow, 2; Field Sparrow, 6; White-throated Sparrow, 85; Swamp Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 25. Total, 41 species; 719 individuals.—J. D. Biggs.

WILMINGTON, N. C.—(First Christmas count in area; pine woodland 80%, pasture land 5%, lake 10%, salt marsh 5%.) Dec. 30. Wind variable, overcast with fog, clearing slightly in afternoon. Wind 10 m.p.h., temp. 57 to 48 degrees, ground wet and bare, water open. Four observers in two parties. Total hours 9½ on foot. Total miles covered 25 (about six on foot, getting from place to place by automobile.) Pied-billed Grebe, 4; Cormorant, 3; Great Blue Heron, 1; American Egret, 8; Baldpate, 50 (est.); Ring-necked Duck, 6; Lesser Scaup Duck, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Bobwhite, 11; Coot, 175 (est.); Semipalmated Plover, 2; Killdeer, 15; Blackbellied Plover, 1; Greater Yellow-legs, 5; Semipalmated Sandpiper, 80 (est.); Sanderling, 45; Herring Gull, 4; Ring-billed Gull, 25; Least tern, 1; Black Tern, 1; Mourning Dove, 11; Belted Kingfisher, 1; Flicker, 7; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Phoebe, 2; Blue Jay, 23; Crow, 20; Chickadee, 10; Tufted Titmouse, 20; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 10; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 20; House Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 13; Short-billed Marsh Wren, 1; Mockingbird, 26; Brown Thrasher, 12; Robin, 35 (est.); Hermit Thrush, 8; Bluebird, 16; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 25 (est.); American Pipit, 25(est.); Shrike, 10; Starling, 55; Myrtle Warbler, 700 (est.); Pine Warbler, 150 (est.); English Sparrow, 200 (est.); Meadowlark, 30; Red-Wing, 200 (est.); Cardinal, 20; Purple Finch, 4; Goldfinch, 12; Towhee, 22; Savannah Sparrow, 10; Junco, 75 (est.); Chipping Sparrow, 100 (est.) Field Sparrow, 15; White-throated Sparrow, 34; Fox Sparrow, 9; Swamp Sparrow, 50 (est.); Song Sparrow, 26. Total, 61 species, approximately 2,452 individuals.—Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, Mrs. W. C. Mebane, Mr. and Mrs. Gregor Rohwer.

WINDOM, N. C.—(Farms of L. H. Hutchins, Mack Silver, Mrs. C. P. Gibson, and adjacent territory; open farm land 50%, white pine woodland 2%, pastures 18%, deciduous forests 30%.) Dec. 27—8:00 A. M. to 5:30 P. M. Fair in the forenoon, cloudy in the afternoon; temp. 30°-42° F.; calm. Seven observers, in two parties. Total hours, 16; total miles, 12 (on foot). Cooper's Hawk, 1; Bobwhite, 1; Blue Jay, 33; Crow, 57; Chickadee, 1; Tufted Titmouse, 9; Carolina Wren, 4; Bluebird, 12; Starling, 14; English Sparrow, 156; Meadowlark, 4; Cardinal, 31; Goldfinch, 25; Towhee, 4; Junco, 36; Field Sparrow, 55; White-throated Sparrow, 3; Fox Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 96. Total, 19 species, 543 individuals.—James Hutchins, Roosevelt Hughes, Paul Hughes, Philip Styles, J. C. Styles, Betty Sue Gibson and Mrs. C. P. Gibson.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.—(Extending last year's area; Reynolda Bird Sanctuary, City watershed, City parks, separated sections of residence area, farm land, Yadkin river, and lakes frozen over; 30% wooded, 70% open and water.) Dec. 27—9:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Weather clear and overcast, 5 inches crusted snow on ground, light wind, temp. 51°. Five parties, 11 observers. Total hours 27½; total miles, 12 afoot, 63½ in car. Great Blue Heron, 1; Mallard, 3; Ring-necked Duck, 4; Turkey Vulture, 12; Black Vulture, 6; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Mourning Dove, 27; Flicker, 4; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 9; Phoebe, 1; Blue Jay, 17; Crow, 14; Chickadee, 14; Tufted Titmouse, 11; White-breasted Nuthatch, 6; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Brown Creeper, 1; Carolina Wren, 8; Mockingbird, 13; Robin, 2; Hermit Thrush, 1; Bluebird, 19; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Shrike, 1; Starling, 256; English Sparrow, 122; Meadowlark, 23; Purple Grackle, 49; Cardinal, 31; Purple Finch, 1; Goldfinch, 10; Towhee, 11; Junco, 86; Field Sparrow, 34; White-throated Sparrow, 55; Swamp Sparrow, 2; Song Sparrow, 40. Total, 42 species, 905 individuals. (Lakes were all covered with ice except few small holes, hence the 5,000 Canada Geese seen here day before the sleet storm were missing.)—Observers: Charles H. Babcock, and son Charles, Miss Charity Rothrock, Mrs. Wm. H. Chance, Rev. Douglass Rights, Burton Rights, Edward Shamel, Rev. R. C. Stubbins, James L. Stephenson, Bill Anderson, Henry Magie.

News of the Local Clubs

PIEDMONT BIRD CLUB: At the November meeting of Greensboro's Piedmont Bird Club, which was held on the evening of the 15th in the Science building at the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury showed and discussed three motion picture films of nature subjects, including "Birds of Prey," "How Birds Feed Their Young," and a beautiful colored film, "Orchids." An open forum was held for bird observations, and Mrs. George Perrett, Education chairman, gave a report on the school bird project. Plans for the annual dinner meeting were made, and new officers for 1946 were elected.

Mrs. O. F. Jensen, of Chapel Hill, vice-president of the North Carolina Bird Club, was guest speaker at the annual dinner meeting, which was held at Greensboro's Masonic Temple on the evening of December 7th. Mrs. Jensen charmed the audience with her interesting account of her own experiences with feeding stations, bird traps, and banding, and her study of bird migration. Of special interest to the club, which has been making a special study of hawks this year, was Mrs. Jensen's discussion of Hawk Mountain, Penn., sanctuary for birds of prey, and the showing of colored moving pictures of this sanctuary, the only one of its kind. The retiring president, Mrs. Edith Settan, gave a report of the club's past year, during which Greensboro became a bird sanctuary.

The annual winter bird count, which was organized by the Field Trip Chairman, Miss Edith Schiffman, was held on December 26th, with 22 observers participating. Following the count, the census takers met at the Jefferson Roof restaurant for dinner and to tabulate the results, a detailed account of which is found elsewhere in this issue of *The Chat*. This was the final meeting for 1945 and the members are looking forward with much eagerness to the coming year and its opportunities for bird study.

Mrs. F. H. Craft, Recording Secretary.

HICKORY BIRD CLUB: A joint meeting of the Hickory Bird Club was held with the Lenoir Audubon Club, on the evening of November 2nd, with the Lenoir group as hosts. Nine members of the Hickory Bird Club motored to Lenoir to attend the meeting which was held at Kirkwood, the home of Miss Margaret Harper. Mrs. C. S. Warren acted as chairman, in the absence of Fred H. May, president of the

Lenoir Audubon Club. The meeting was informal, and included, among other things, a discussion and comparison of the varied work programs of the Lenoir and Hickory clubs. The exchange of ideas resulted in a mutual benefit, as both clubs gained some inspiration and ideas for future proceedings. Each of the clubs is lucky enough to have a bird artist, and some of the original bird portraits by Miss Harper, the hostess, and by the Hickory club's own bird artist, A. J. Bradshaw, were shown.

The first in a series of discussions of "Your Favorite Bird," was presented at the November meeting of the Hickory Bird Club, which was held at the home of Mrs. J. W. Shuford, on the evening of the 8th. Mrs. Eugene Ivey reported on her favorite, the Catbird. Mrs. Weston Clinard reported detailed observations on a Robin's nest, from the placing of the first twig to the vacating of the nest by the last young Robin, the observations being made possible from the favorable location of the nest outside a classroom window at the Brookfield school. A round table discussion was held, and a report was made of the joint meeting with the Lenoir Audubon club, which was held at Lenoir on the evening of November 2nd.

J. W. CLINARD, Vice-president.

The Bookshelf

The Ducks, Geese and Swans of North America: A Vade Mecum for the Naturalist and the Sportsman. By Francis H. Kortright. Ill. by T. M. Shortt. American Wildlife Institute, 822 Investment Bldg., Washington 5, D. C. 1943: 5¾ x 8¾; viii, 476 p.; 36 col. plates, 200 line drawings. Buckram $5.00, limited ed. $10.00.

A good library and field book. Thirty-two of the colored plates show winter and autumn plumages and spread wings, three plates show downy young, and the final colored plate shows some interesting hybrids and albinos.

Birds of Georgia: A Preliminary Check-List and Bibliography of Georgia Ornithology. Compiled by Earle R. Greene, William W. Griffin, Eugene P. Odum, Herbert L. Stoddard, and Ivan R. Tomkins, with a historical narrative by Eugene E. Murphey. The University of Georgia Press, Athens. 1945: 6 x 9, 111 p., frontispiece, map, $2.00.

The lengthy annotated bibliography and the list of the seasonal occurrence and distribution of 377 species and subspecies definitely recorded from Georgia, with an additional hypothetical list of 23 species, gives an idea of the considerable amount of ornithological study which has been made in Georgia. The Georgia Ornithological Society which sponsored the booklet has done a valuable service in the preparation of this check list which will furnish the basis for further distributional studies and will also be useful for bird students in North Carolina and other states bordering Georgia. The Historical Narrative by Dr. Murphey is a delightfully written list of brief accounts of Georgia bird students from Mark Catesby to the present time. The frontispiece is a black and white reproduction of a painting of a Great Blue Heron, by Athos Menaboni, a native of Leghorn, Italy, now an American citizen and resident of Georgia, and who is on the way to becoming an outstanding bird artist.

The Book of Naturalists: An Anthology of the Best Natural History. By William Beebe. Alfred A. Knopf, N. Y. 1945: 5½ x 8½; xiv, 499 p., 3 plates. $3.50.

Truly a treasury of fascinating reading. Since selection was made to a considerable extent on the basis of literary style and composition, various readers will think of omissions among their favorite natural history writers. I would have liked a selection from the blind Swiss naturalist Huber. Very little is included on plants, but the animal groups are pretty well covered, and the selected writings of the 46 authors not only include many of the classics of natural history, but really outline the development of natural history from the time of Aristotle to the present.

An Arctic Visitor in North Carolina

In the early morning of December 14, 1945, Charles H. West and four other Greensboro sportsmen were in a duck blind in Core sound, off Davis, Carteret county, N. C., huddled over charcoal bucket fires to keep out the extreme cold which penetrated their warm hunting clothes. There were plenty of ducks, but the cold had kept other hunters indoors. As day dawned, the hunters saw a large white owl, strange to them, perched on top of the poles of an old abandoned blind at a distance of 80 yards or so. The owl was flushed and started to fly, but fell into the water. Fished out with a dip net, it was placed in the boat where it remained the rest of the day, seemingly little disturbed by occasional handling. Mr. West brought the owl to Greensboro, N. C., and turned it over to Kenneth Wible, city recreation manager, who confirmed the identification of the Snowy or Arctic Owl, and placed it in Greensboro's recreation park, where it seemed quite peaceful and much at home with the snow which covered the Greensboro area during late December.

SNOWY or ARCTIC OWL, Captured Dec. 14, 1945, in Carteret County, N. C. (Photograph by courtesy of Carol Martin, Greensboro News-Record Staff Photographer.)

The Snowy or Arctic Owl nests in the frozen wastes of northern Canada and northern Alaska. Some appear in northern United States each winter, from New England to Montana, but every four or five years there is an exceptional southward migration of these birds. Their appearance in numbers far south of their usual haunts is apparently correlated with the relative abundance of their chief food, mice and lemmings, in the far north.

A. D. S.

Questions and Answers

G. F. Shepherd, Jr., and Phillips Russel, Chapel Hill

How many kinds of "wild canaries" are there?

The true wild canaries from which all our domestic canaries have been developed are native to three groups of Atlantic islands—the Azores, Madeira, and the Canary Islands. In other parts of the world various small yellowish birds are known as wild canaries, but these are not related to the domestic canaries. In the United States of America the name wild canary is given to the goldfinch *(Spinus tristis)* and to the yellow warbler *(Dendroica aestiva)*, which are representatives of two entirely different families of birds.

I have had a very happy bird year, and could write pages on my observations. I wonder if the Editor welcomes out of state notes; and I also wonder if the magazine is confined to prose, with no verse ever allowed. (Lake View, S. C.)

In recent months, *The Chat* has included Field Notes from North Carolina Bird Club members in Michigan, Tennessee, and Maryland, and even some notes, and very interesting they were, regarding migrating birds observed on the high seas by a member of the U. S. Merchant Marine while on convoy duty in the western Atlantic. An early number of *The Chat* will include a list of birds observed in Burma, and another list of birds observed on various islands in the southwest Pacific, both lists by members of the North Carolina Bird Club. *The Chat* uses and welcomes such contributions. The chief limit is restricted space, and chief test is their natural history value, provided, always, that such notes have not been previously published. Accurate records of distribution, arrival, and nesting data, behavior notes, carful records of both usual and unusual observations at all seasons and in all sections of your state will be valuable to bird students in all adjoining states. *The Chat* will be glad to help assure the permanency and availability of such records, on account of their scientific value and to encourage more widespread interest in bird study, both as a healthy and fascinating hobby, and as a part of the education of the public in a fundamental part of the general problems of the conservation of our wildlife and all of our other natural resources. Regarding verse, send on your poems, original or otherwise. With a removal of war time restrictions, particularly on paper, the scope of *The Chat* may be extended somewhat, and will include, among other things, occasional poems, though, of course, they must be brief.

My Experience in Attracting Purple Martins

Dr. Wesley Taylor, Justamere Farm, Greensboro

(Have you ever felt the thrill of watching a Purple Martin scout inspect a martin house which you had erected? Wesley Taylor is a busy Greensboro doctor who lives in a fine farm home—Justamere Farm—near Greensboro, and who takes time to do many interesting things besides doctoring. There is genuine enthusiasm at the Taylor home when the first martins arrive because they seem like old friends and a part of the family. The privilege of watching a colony of martins at close range for just one summer is worth all the effort required for putting up suitable nesting boxes.—Editor.)

For many years I made efforts to get the Purple Martin with no success. I blamed many things for my failures. The nearest colony of martins

I knew I was nine miles away—three or four soap boxes on pine poles. Several youngsters put them up and left them as long as they would hold together. No paint, no decorating or house cleaning, and every box different. The martins came year after year but I was unable to find why they chose these humble quarters and ignored my fancy apartments. I wrote for government bulletins got plans from Dotson, Mr. Dotson even picked out a suitable location for a box for me, but not a martin in ten years.

The latter part of February, nine years ago, a kind old lady, one of my neighbors, thrust a dozen gourds upon me. I was not busy at the moment, so I cut a 2 ½ inch door in each gourd, every one in a different location. Some were high up, some low, some in the middle. Surely one or two of them would be right. I would watch and see which ones they would be. I put them up in the busiest spot on the place the same day I got them. That was on the far side of the driveway just opposite the front door. I attached the gourds with stiff wire so they rocked comparatively little, even in high winds.

Up to this time I had put up my nicely painted boxes about the 1st of May—the time I was told martins should begin to arrive. By this delay I hoped to offer the minimum opportunity for English sparrows and others to get in ahead of the martins. As it happened the pole of gourds was erected during a period of favorable weather, the last week in February. Much to my surprise a pair of bedraggled martins literally dropped out of the sky upon these gourds early in the morning of March 4th. They came with much noise and chatter, I heard them high above before I could see them. They seemed most unsettled for nearly a week, when a second pair showed up. Then they began to argue about the choice of apartments, whereupon every one became definitely interested. Within the next ten days two more pairs joined the colony, all of whom remained until the beginning of August.

The next year the scouts arrived on March 22nd, one pair as before. Others dropped in every few days until I counted 12 pairs. They all remained until the 4th of August.

The following year scouts arrived on March 14th and before the month was gone I put up two more poles.

In 1944 the scouts appeared again on March 4th. Forty four gourds were waiting for them—and a dozen of my discards were put up by my colored houseboy, who lives a stone-throw away.

One thing I observed is that they fill the older apartments first, going to new locations only as the older ones are filled. This leads me to believe that my colonies increase in number from the birds raised on the place the

year before. As to the choice of gourds, the birds scrap considerably over them but eventually take them all.

The location of the door is apparently of small importance. It may be close to the bottom or high up, within reason, of course. It may face directly outward or point to the sky, overhead, as may be observed in one of my colonies. Last year every gourd was filled. According to my 1944 count I had 44 gourds filled and there were 6 or 8 pairs in the ones put up by my houseboy.

The size of the gourds makes little difference, though it does seem that they have heretofore taken the larger ones first. My gourds vary in size from a minimum of about 6½ inches, inside measurements, to nearly 12 inches. Eight or even nine inches, in every direction, appears most attractive. Birds prefer those which do not swing too freely.

Another point of apparent importance is that they like situations in the open, away from trees and tall buildings. The reason for this may be that they feel safer from flying squirrels. It is well either to place your boxes on metal poles, or if wood is used to fix a cat or squirrel guard on the pole. This is readily done by putting the pole through the center of an inverted washpan. Place the shield at least 7 or 8 feet from the ground and several feet below the lowest apartment. From this you will see that poles should be 10 to 15 feet or more in height.

The easiest way to erect the pole is to fit it over a smaller pipe, set in a cement base, and extending 12 inches or more above ground. A wooden pole might be bolted to a short post. This makes it an easy matter to put up or take down a pole whenever it is desirable.

A very necessary feature, and one liable to be overlooked, especially if one is in a hurry, is the necessity of draining away rainwater which sometimes comes through the door and endangers the young birds. Two or three one-eighth inch gimlet holes in the most dependant parts of each gourd takes care of this.

Gourds will look much better and last much longer if, after the martins leave in the fall, they are taken down, cleaned nicely and carefully varnished before storing. Some of my gourds still look good after four or more years of active service. Another good reason for taking poles down, as soon as the martins leave, is that you avoid possibility of other birds securing squatters rights in the colony. To summarize:

1. Put your gourds or boxes up early. The last of February is none too soon.

2. Locate them in an open space, as public as possible, and away from trees. Martins like to be on Main street. They don't like seclusion.

3. The lowest box should be 10 feet from the ground. Poles, therefore should be from 10 to 15 feet tall.

4. A pole should carry at least four apartments. I usually put up 12 gourds.

4. Use some device that will enable you to put up and take poles down readily.

6. Don't forget a guard against cats and squirrels.

7. Gourds 7 or 8 inches in diameter are recommended.

8. Attach gourds stiffly to avoid unnecessary swinging.

9. Make doors about 2½ inches in diameter.

10. Drainage is necessary in the bottom of each apartment.

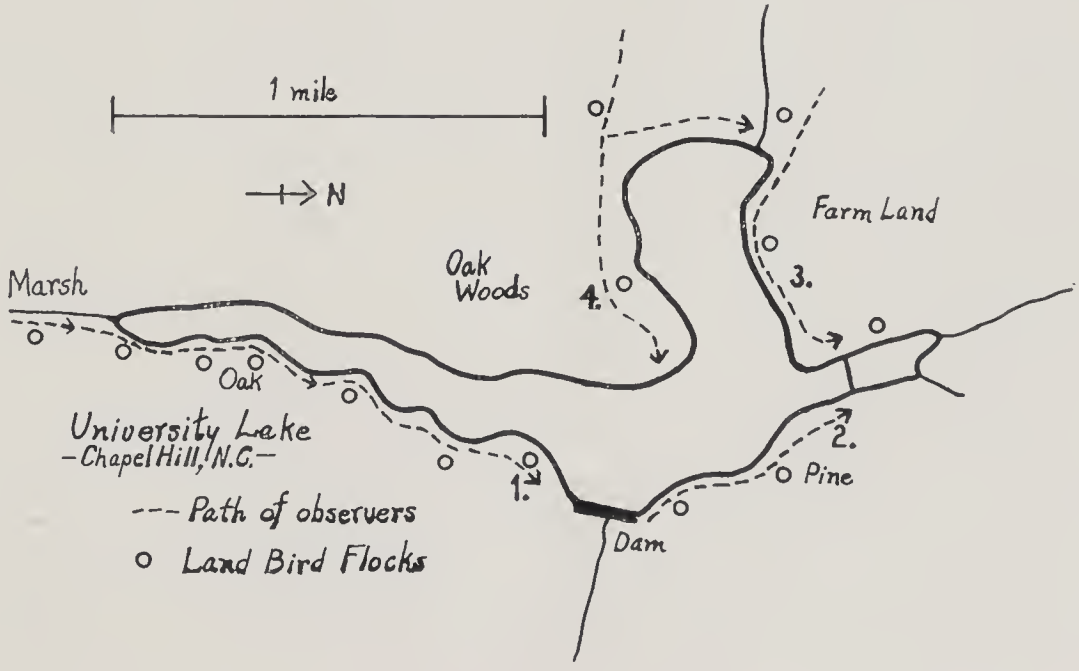
11. Take gourds down early. Clean, varnish and store till next Spring.

Lake Count at Chapel Hill, N. C.

Howard T. Odum, 2nd Lt. A. C.

(Lt. Odum, who was with the U. S. Army Air Corps, says that, after the jungles of Panama, observing in the familiar haunts of Chapel Hill had a surprising amount of interest connected with it—Editor.)

Located three miles from Chapel Hill, N. C., University Lake is the site of some of the best and most varied birding in North Carolina. With three long tongues of water, this little known reservoir is gaining a reputation in bird circles for variable bird life equal to that of some of the



famous coastal areas. The unique nature of the lake allows stalking of waterfowl. Due to the shape of the lake two or three parties of observers can flush duck back and forth between them. A rough count of the bird population was attempted as a field activity by the Chapel Hill Bird Club on November 18th., 1945.

The *cross flushing technique* of observation was the one that has been developed by the Chapel Hill group for this area. At dawn four parties approached the lake on all sides as shown in the accompanying sketch map. Records were kept of all birds and the place where they were observed. Whenever a duck flock took off or landed, the time was noted. By comparing notes later, duplication of observation was avoided and accuracy of identification insured. Woe be to the two parties both of which observed 7 ducks passing at 7:13 A. M., if one party records Ringnecks and the other swears on Lesser Scaup.

Duck familiarization was an additional purpose of the field trip. Several of the observers had their first introduction to ducking. After being flushed from the lake arms, most of the ducks collected in two rafts in the center of the lake. Thus telescope and arm chair observation was possible. The following notes summarize the observations.

Water Bird Population: Great Blue Heron, 1; Mallard, 5 mixed; American Merganser, 1 male; Scaup, 4 male; Bufflehead, 2 female; Wood Duck, 1 male; Black Duck, 100 plus; Ring-necked Duck, 11 mixed. (Bright red feet were noted on several Black Ducks that passed close to observers.)

Land Birds: Total species 43 (3 hours.) Species of particular interest: Wild Turkey, 2; Chipping Sparrow, 3. Life history Notes of Interest: Winter Wren and Song Sparrow were singing.

Flocks: The positions of the typical land bird winter flocks is shown on the map to give an idea of the distribution of the bird population. Each flock usually had several kinglets, chickadees, and members of the sparrow family. Fourteen of these flocks were encountered along about 3½ miles of shore line.

Weather: Scattered altocumulus clouds; wind light; temperature 50°-60° F.

Most important, a good time was had by all. We heartily recommend this type of field trip to the North Carolina Bird Club. Observers: Howard T. Odum, Freemont Shepherd, Maurice Whittinghill, Bill Thomas, Mrs. W. H. Walters, Josephine Stewart, Roberta Lovelace, Mrs. Ove Jensen, Mrs. R. B. Sharpe, Peter Lawrence, Mrs. C. H. Pegg, Marcella Harrer, Mrs. Mabel Findley.

Field Notes and News

SHORE BIRDS AT MOUNT OLIVE, N. C.: The Spotted Sandpiper is a common summer resident here, but no nests have been found. The following are all transients: Solitary Sandpiper, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, Sanderling (Sept. 21, 1), Western Sandpiper (Oct. 3, 1, only eight feet away), Semi-palmated Sandpiper (probably common), Wilson's Plover (Sept. 18, 1945, 3), Semi-palmated Plover (Oct. 2, 1945, 2).

Bob Holmes III

WRIGHTSVILLE SOUND (N. C.): American and Snowy Egrets, Black-crowned Night Herons, and Louisiana Herons were still here on November 4th. There was a rather high wind blowing and I saw a sight that was strange to me. A flock of about 200 sparrow-sized birds were soaring in a swallow-like manner. They were too high to tell their color. They seemed to be just blowing with the wind. I would appreciate any suggestion as to what species these birds might have been.

Bob Holmes III

BALTIMORE ORIOLES AT RALEIGH, N. C.: On May 13, 1945, while watching our mulberry tree, a male Baltimore Oriole came into full view, ate a few berries, uttered a few calls, and remained for about thirty minutes.

I saw also a pair of Scarlet Tanagers and 10 Cedar Waxwings. Only one Rose-breasted Grosbeak was seen, the female. On May 12, I saw two male and one female Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, one White-throated Sparrow, and one Black-throated Blue Warbler. I saw two Olive-backed Thrushes on May 12th, and two the next day. Six females and two females of the Rose-Breasted Grosbeak were seen on May 5.

Robert Overing

(I also had a mulberry tree, and saw male Baltimore Oriole and Scarlet Tangers in it on April 29th. Other birds attracted to it were Kingbirds, Cedar Waxwings, and Blackpoll Warblers. Both Mr. Overing's mulberry tree and mine had pale pink or white berries. C. S. Brimley.)

WARBLERS AT MOUNT OLIVE: Following are the warblers we get here. *Summer Visitors:* Parula, Pairie, Yellow-throated, Prothonotary, Swainson's (occasional), Louisiana Water Thrush, Chat, Hooded. *Transients:* Black and White, Blackpoll, Black-throated Blue, Cape May (fall), Blue Winged (fall, rare.—Bob Wolff), Kentucky Warbler (spring, rare), Wormeating (once, Aug. 28), Yellow Palm, Yellow, Redstart (very common). *Winter Visitor:* Myrtle. *Resident:* Pine Warbler.

Bob Holmes III

TUMBLING CREEK, TENN. First arrivals, 1945: May 21, White-eyed Vireo and Ovenbird; May 23, a Brown Thrasher; May 24, Crested Flycatcher, only one (rare here, this is the first seen since about five years ago. Wonder why, with abundance of snake sheds and all the big forest. Perhaps not enough cultivated fields for grasshoppers.); May 29, Black-throated Blue Warbler; June 5, Black-billed Cuckoo (breeds here but not common; have never seen a Yellow-billed Cuckoo here); June 12, Rough-winged Swallow. There seems to be a particular instability or flux in the bird life of this corner of the mountains that touches North Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee. For instance, on June 25, 1945, came the Red-eyed Vireo, although other species of Vireo had been common a long time, and although in former years the Red-eyed had been also common. About five years ago the White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches were here in winter and came right on the porch, but not a one has been seen since. I saw a Brown Thrasher on May 23rd, but up to this writing on June 27, I have no other record, though Brown Thrashers have been common

every year both here and also on the North Carolina side about Weaverville. The farmers used to plant their corn by the arrival of the Brown Thrashers. Maybe we get the ends or the edges of regular migration tides, and our arrivals here are, to some extent, those thrown off by other movements. There is a great diversity of altitude here, there being a difference of nearly 5,000 feet in a mile and a half. We rarely see a Bluebird in our yards, but just over the hill, a distance of a crow's mile, they are plentiful.

Ernest Seeman, Route 2, (Tumbling Creek), Erwin, Tenn.

MOUNTAIN BIRDS: These are some of the more interesting birds observed on a trip through part of the western North Carolina mountains in the summer of 1945. Large flocks of Chimney Swifts and Nighthawks were seen at Valdese on August 25th; 2 Cedar Waxwings, a Black-throated Blue Warbler, a Brown Creeper, some Carolina Juncos, and a chickadee (species not determined), were seen at Smokemont on the 27th; the next day a Duck Hawk was seen half way between Smokemont and Newfound Gap, and at Indian Gap, a Winter Wren, another chickadee, a male Black-throated Green Warbler, and more Carolina Juncos were noted; on the 29th, at Clingman's Dome, I was delighted to see a Raven, and also several hundred Tree Swallows. I forgot to say that at Indian Gap I saw two Purple Finches, and four more the same day (Aug. 28th) at Newfound Gap. On August 31st, at Spence Field, a female Black-throated Warbler and two Cedar Waxwings were noted.

Ernest Mitchell, Jr., Raleigh, N. C.

GREENSBORO: Last observations of winter residents, spring 1945. (Many of these and the following records are by Tom Zapf or Larry Crawford or both and to save space the initials Z and C are used for their observations.) Horned Grebe, Jan. 6, Z. and C.; Double-crested Cormorant, May 19; Mallard, Jan. 27, Z. and C.; Black Duck, Jan. 27, Z. and C.; Baldpate, March 24, Z. and C.; Blue-winged Teal, May 19; Ringnecked Duck, Jan. 31 (85) March 31, Z. and C; Lesser Scaup, May 8, Z. and C.; Golden-eye, Feb. 10, Z. and C.; Buffle-head, Jan. 27, Z. and C.; Ruddy Duck, March 10, Z. and C.; American Merganser, March 31, Z. and C.; Red-breasted Merganser, May 5, (spring count); Marsh Hawk, April 1; Wilson's Snipe, April 29, Z.; Herring Gull, (Wanderer) April 29, Z.; Ring-billed Gull (Wanderer) May 8, Z.; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, March 18, Z.; Brown Creeper, March 29; Winter Wren, March 18, Z.; Hermit Thrush, April 21; Golden-crowned Kinglet, March 25; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, April 22; Cedar Waxwing, June 6, C.; Myrtle Warbler, May 17, C.; Purple Finch, March 10, Z. and C.; Carolina Junco, May 14, Hugh Medford; Savannah Sparrow, May 6, Z.; Vesper Sparrow, April 21; White-throated Sparrow, May 17, C.; Swamp Sparrow, May 3, C.

First and last observations of spring migrants, 1945: Common Loon, April 29-May 13, Z. and C.; American Bittern, May 6, Z.; Osprey, March 31, Z.-April 8, Z.;American Coot, March 2, Z.; Upland Plover, March 28, Z.; Solitary Sandpiper, March, 21, Z.-May 30, C.; Greater Yellow-legs, May 3-May 13, Z. and C.; Lesser Yellowlegs, April 30-May 13, C.; Least Sandpiper, May 4, C.-May 20, C.; Tree Swallow, April 5-May 8, Z.; Bank Swallow, April 30-May 19, Z.; Barn Swallow, April 29-May 13, Z.; Cliff Swallow, April 28-May 19, Z.; Bewick's Wren, March 20, Z.; Olive-backed Thrush, May 2, Z.-May 19, Z.; Veery, May 2-May 5, C.; Cape May Warbler, April 24, Z.-May 8, Z. and C.; Black-throated Blue W., April 22, Z., C., and G. Smith-May 19, Z. and C.; Black-throated Green W., May 5 (spring count); Cerulean W., May 5, Z. and C.; Chestnut-sided W., May 6, Z.-May 19, Z. and C.; Black-poll W., May 8, Z. and C.-May 22, Z.; Blackburnian W. May 5, Z.; Yellow Palm W., April 1, Z., C., and A. D. S.- April 22, C.; Bobolink April 28, Z. and C.; Rusty Blackbird, April 10, Z.; Baltimore Oriole, May 6,

Z.; Scarlet Tanager, April 18, Z and C.-May 19, Z. and C.; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, April 28, Z.-May 6, Z.

Summer visitors, first observations, 1945: Green Heron, May 8, Z.; Least Bittern, June 12, Z. and C.; Broad-winged Hawk, April 8, Z.; Woodcock, April 1; Spotted Sandpiper, April 10, Z.; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, April 28, Geo. A. Smith; Chuck-wills-widow, May 5, Z.; Nighthawk, April 16, Z.; Chimney Swift, April 1, Etta Schiffman; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, April 14, Geo. Perrett; Eastern Kingbird, April 28, Z.; Crested Flycatcher April 15 (2); Acadian Flycatcher, April 28, Z.; Wood Pewee, May 5, Z.; Rough-winged Swallow, March 24, Z. and C.; Purple Martin, March 2, (2 or 3); Ten days later four or five more, then arrivals came fast, Dr. Wesley Taylor; House Wren, April 2; Catbird, April 14, Z. and C.; Brown Thrasher, Feb. 14, Geo. Perrett; Wood Thrush, April 2, Anne Shamburger; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, March 18, Billy Craft; Blue-headed Vireo, April 1; White-eyed Vireo, April 3, Z.; Yellow-throated Vireo, April 2; Red-eyed Vireo, April 2; Black and White Warbler, March 17, C. and Billy Craft; Parula W., March 15, C.; Yellow W., April 14; Yellow-throated W., March 17; Prairie W., April 8, Z. and C.; Overbird, April 8, Z.; Louisiana Water Thrush, April 14; Maryland Yellowthroat, March 21, Billy Craft; Yellow-breasted Chat, April 21, Z. and C.; Hooded Warbler, April 14, Z. and C.; Redstart, April 9, C.; Cowbird, April 10, C.; Summer Tanager, April 15; Blue Grosbeak, Apr. 29, Z. and John Carr; Indigo Bunting, Apr. 26, Z.; Grasshopper Sparrow, March 31, Z. and C.; Bachman's Sparrow (permanent resident?), March 25, Z.; Chipping Sparrow, March 3, Z.

Fall migrants and wanderers, 1945. Apparently due to severe rains and weather disturbances in general, few migrants have been noted during the present fall. Bald Eagle (1) Sept. 9, C. and Geo. A. Smith; Semi-palmated Plover, Sept. 9-10, C.; Solitary Sandpiper, Aug. 29, C.; Greater Yellow-legs, Aug. 29, C.-Oct. 14; Lesser Yellow-legs, Sept. 9, C.; Pectoral Sandpiper, Sept 19, C.-Oct. 7, C.; Least Sandpiper, Aug. 29, C.-Sept 9, C.; Semipalmated Sandpiper, Aug. 30, C.-Oct. 7, C.; Common Tern, Sept. 18, C.; Black Tern, Aug. 29 and Sept 18, C.; Tree Swallow, Aug. 28 and Aug. 30, C.; Bank Swallow, Sept. 18, C.; Barn Swallow, Aug 28 and Aug. 30, C.; Olive-backed Thrush, Sept. 22, C.-Oct. 27, C.; Blue-winged W. Sept. 1, C.; Parula W., Oct. 7, Geo. A. Smith; Cape May Warbler, very common for nearly a month, from Sept. 29 (Geo. A. Smith) to Oct. 20; Black-throated Green Warbler, Oct. 1-Oct. 16, C.; Chestnut-sided W., Sept. 18, C.; Yellow Palm W., Oct. 14, Geo. A. Smith; Scarlet Tanager, Oct. 29, Geo. A. Smith; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Oct. 12, Hugh Medford. One of the prize finds for the year in this region was two Eastern Dowitchers which were observed on August 29 and 30, at Richland (New) Lake, about five miles north of Greensboro. The specimens were taken by Crawford on August 30, and both were males. *According to "Birds of North Carolina," no previous specimens of Eastern Dowitchers have been observed in inland North Carolina.*

Winter visitors, first observations, 1945. Purple Finches were observed on October 21, by Etta Schiffman, and Red-breasted Nuthatches, none of which were observed here last winter, have already been seen in considerable numbers, the first record being by Geo. A. Smith and Larry Crawford on Sept. 22. Blue-winged Teal, Sept. 18, C.; Baldplate, Oct. 27, C.; Lesser Scaup, Oct. 27, C.; Ruddy Duck, Oct. 27, C.; Duck Hawk, Oct. 28, Etta Schiffman and Geo. A. Smith; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Oct. 13, C.; Brown Creeper, Sept. 23, (an early date), Geo. A. Smith; Hermit Thrush, Oct. 21, Billy Craft; Golden-crowned Kinglet, Oct. 17, C.; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Oct. 21, Billy Craft; Myrtle Warbler, Oct. 8, Mrs. F. H. Craft; Junco, Oct. 21, Billy Craft; White-throated Sparrow, Oct. 10, Margaret Wall.

Three late dates for summer visitors for 1945 in Greensboro are: Red-eyed Vireo, Oct. 7, Geo. A. Smith; Wood Thrush, Oct. 7, Geo. A. Smith; and Catbird, Oct. 7.

ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY.

With the Editor

WATER FOWL FIELD TRIP: Greensboro's Piedmont Bird Club is going ahead with plans for a field trip to eastern North Carolina to observe winter water fowl, probably on February 8, 9, and 10. Those who have already inquired, will be notified as soon as the plans are definite.

DR. FRANK M. CHAPMAN PASSES: In November 1945, in Manhattan, at the age of 81 years, passed one of the greatest ornithologists America has ever produced. He was father of the bird sanctuary system, and in his 34 years as curator of birds at the American Museum of Natural History, in New York City, he built the world's finest collection, which now includes over 750,000 specimens.

CORRECTION: In the November 1945 issue of *The Chat* (vol. IX, no. 5), on page 72, in the second paragraph of the article, "Breeding Records of Grasshopper Sparrows from Charlotte and Vicinity," by B. R. Chamberlain, *April 11th* should read *August 11th;* *April 12th,* should read *August 12th;* and *May 17th* should read *the 17th.* In the Elkin observations, by Robert H. Witherington, in "Field Notes and News," on page 78, of the Nov. 1945 issue of *The Chat*: *Oven-bird, October* 10 (11) should read *Ovenbird, October* 10 (1); *October* 11 (1).—A. D. S.

BIRD SUPPLIES: N. C. Bird Club members who have experienced difficulty in securing bird supplies will be pleased to know that a N. C. Bird Club member, Mrs. W. B. Simons, 2324 Briarwood Road, Charlotte, 4, N. C., has recently put in a stock of equipment and supplies suitable for both caged and wild birds, and has wild bird feeders, wild bird seed, Audubon bird cards, *Birds of North Carolina.* She expects a shipment of bird houses soon, and intends to add all types of bird books, and will put in a lending library exclusively of bird books.

GOURDS FOR BIRD HOMES: A friend has passed the information to us that N. L. Leonard, Route 3, Rockingham, N. C., has some gourds for sale, which are suitable for homes for Martins, Bluebirds, Wrens, and such. This isn't an advertisement, but we understand that he sells them plain for 10c each; those prepared with a hole for 15c each; or with a hole and painted at 25c. Mr. Leonard lives on U. S. Highway 220, four miles north of Rockingham, N. C., but I suspect you could arrange for parcel post or express shipment if that is more convenient.

HIGH SCHOOL ORNITHOLOGY ESSAY CONTEST: The North Carolina Academy of Science and the North Carolina State Museum is again offering prizes for the best essays on birds by North Carolina High School students, and local bird clubs are asked to consider organizing and conducting local contests in the high schools of their county, with the best selections to be entered in the state wide contest. This should be done immediately. Last year the contest closed on March 15.—For further information, drop a card to the Editor of *The Chat,* W.C.U.N.C., Greensboro, N. C.

NOTE FROM T/3 GEORGE KENT: In the latter part of November he was still on Leyte, Philippine Islands, where he had been in various locations for some months. With Mayr's "Birds of the Southwest Pacific" he has been able to identify some 35 species of birds, mostly on Bougainville, but the book doesn't help for New Guinea and the Philippines. An early issue of *The Chat* will carry the list of birds he has identified in the southwest Pacific, together with the localities. He hoped to start back to the U. S. A. in December, so we are sending this *Chat* to his home address, 64 West 7th Street, Holland, Mich.

YOUR WINTERING BIRDS—Depend on you to provide much of their needed food. Have it ready for them *before* storms, snow, sleet, and rain. Keep your feeding station supplied. Be prepared.

Has Your Subscription Expired?

Unless you have paid your membership fee for 1946, your membership expired December 31, 1945. The Treasurer of the North Carolina Bird Club will send out notices before March first, but we again make the suggestion that we hope you can find it convenient to remit your dues AT ONCE and save extra work for your Treasurer. Send your check or money order to: Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, Treasurer, North Carolina Bird Club, 6 Springdale Court, Greensboro, N. C.

One Hundred New Members Needed

The North Carolina Bird Club needs a hundred new members to keep up our record for membership gains. It is hoped that *all of our members* will co-operate in letting their friends know of the advantages of membership in the N. C. B. C., and encourage the continued growth and the activities of the Club. Increased membership will make possible a larger, better illustrated *Chat. Will you help to get at least one good new member?* Send fees, $1.00 for active membership, $5.00 for supporting membership, $25.00 for contributing membership, or $100.00 for life membership, to: Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, Treasurer, N. C. B. C., 6 Springdale Court, Greensboro, N. C.

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Henderson Bird Club: P—Miss Elizabeth Fox; V-P—Mrs. A. W. Bachman; S-T—Miss Garnette Myers.

Hickory Bird Club: P—Dr. H. A. Althouse; V-P—Weston Clinard; S-T—Mrs. George E. Bisanar

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WILD BIRD SANCTUARY

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

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Greensboro, N. C.

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

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Woman's College of University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C.

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THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

Organized March 6, 1937, for the study and protection of our birds. Membership is open to those interested in this work, and is divided into four classes: Active Members, who pay dues of $1.00 per year; Sustaining Members, dues of $5.00 a year; Contributing Members, dues of $25.00 a year; Life Members, one lump sum of $100.00.

Membership fees and applications for membership should be sent to the Treasurer, Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, 6 Springdale Court, Greensboro, N. C.

Executive Board Sets Dates for Spring Meeting

The Eighth Spring Meeting of the North Carolina Bird Club will be held on May 11th and 12th, at Boone, N. C. This was decided at a meeting of the Executive Board which was held Saturday, January 26th, at Woman's College, Greensboro. The members of Greensboro's Piedmont Bird Club who are on the board acted as hosts to the other board members and to the representatives of local clubs. During the morning meeting, the executive board and local club representatives from Charlotte, Chapel Hill, Asheville, Raleigh, and Boone, heard Wayne Short explain the National Audubon Society "Screen Tours," which cover all phases of natural history and are offered in series of five movie-lectures.

The chief item of business for the afternoon session of the executive committee, which followed a luncheon at the college cafeteria, was the formulation of plans for the spring meeting. The tentative program for the Boone meeting is printed on the inside back cover of this issue of *The Chat*. Dr. F. B. Meacham, of Raleigh, reported that the Education Committee had sent to 162 North Carolina teachers information regarding the formation of Junior Bird Clubs. The Nature Center program was approved, and the president, Miss Clara Hearne, was asked to appoint an investigating committee to study the possibilities and make a report at the spring meeting. The board voted to allow members to hold life memberships by making four annual payments of $25.00 each, in place of the $100.00 lump sum previously required (and still permitted for those who prefer), and Mrs. Edwin O. Clarkson, member of the executive board from Charlotte, became the first life member.

Among others who attended the board meeting in Greensboro were: Mrs. O. F. Jensen, Chapel Hill, first vice-president; Henry Magie, Winston-Salem, second vice-president; Miss Nancy Eliason, Statesville, Secretary; Captain and Mrs. W. A. Angwin, representatives from the Asheville Bird Club; Dr. R. C. Busteed, representative from the Boone Bird Club; Mrs. G. C. Potter, representative from the Mecklenburg Bird Club; and Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, treasurer; Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury, editor of *The Chat;* Mrs. Edith Settan, membership chairman; and Mrs. Charles M. Swart, representative from the Piedmont Bird Club, all from Greensboro.

The executive board ordered that a letter be sent to H. H. Brimley, who has to get about his home in a wheelchair, bless his brave heart, telling

him we love him and appreciate his generous sharing of his talents with us and posterity.

Now that gas is plentiful and travel restrictions have been relaxed somewhat, people seem to have on their "going shoes," and the request was made that a field trip chairman be appointed. A trip to Orton Plantation and Southport will be held this spring. Henry Magie suggested that there be regional trips conducted for the state, four a year: spring migration, nesting season, fall migration, and winter birds.

In order to meet a part of the expense for a special lecturer from the National Audubon Society for the North Carolina Bird Club spring meeting in Boone, the board voted to charge a small registration fee for the meeting. Members should read the tentative program which appears on the inside back cover of this issue of *The Chat*, and those who plan to attend the Boone meeting should read the IMPORTANT NOTE and send the desired information to Miss Jeffcoat by May 3rd.

A Letter All Club Members Should Read

Winston-Salem, N. C., Feb. 22, 1946

To the Editor, *The Chat:*

These war years have brought to our club members a widened, deepened appreciation of our birds, a new understanding of the vital importance of further study, protection, enjoyment of Mother Nature's generous gift to mankind, our birds.

Our present twenty active bird clubs are well placed in the eastern, central, western zones with many vacant localities in between. Now, with our service men and women safely home our club faces a fine opportunity, a bounden duty to extend its activities, broaden its usefulness, keep step with the new, better days ahead in conserving North Carolina's natural resources.

We accept this challenge. Honest, manful effort has stimulated our club's growth. We are very much alive. Let's grow bigger. We possess the knowledge, ability, determination. My earnest wish is that our ninth birthday party next May 11th and 12th, in Boone we work out an active extension program including twelve new clubs, say in Eastern zone, Wilmington, Oxford, Goldsboro, Wilson, Rocky Mount, and Kinston; in the Central zone, Reidsville, High Point, Sanford, Siler City, Mount Airy, and Elkin; and in the Western zone, North Wilkesboro, Shelby, and Morganton.

A big program in keeping with our great Club! Let's start now to organize these and other clubs and remember, "mistakes are the steps by which higher men rise and they are always the proof of the fellow who tries." HENRY MAGIE.

News of the Local Clubs

HICKORY BIRD CLUB: The January meeting of the Hickory Bird Club was held Thursday evening, January 10th, at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Harry D. Althouse, with seventeen members present. An invitation was extended to the North

Carolina Bird Club to hold the May meeting here. Mrs. W. J. Shuford was named delegate to the executive board meeting of the State Bird Club, to be held in Greensboro on January 26th. Mrs. George Fuller, Mrs. "Andy" Reynolds, and Mrs. George Bisanar were appointed as a committee to plan aid to bird study in local schools. Mrs. Bisanar read several letters and displayed illustrated literature regarding available bird lectures and sanctuary tours under the auspices of the National Audubon Society. Dr. Althouse read an original bird story, regarding his experiences with attempting to rear some orphan wrens, to be contributed to the book being written by the members of the club. Mrs. Fuller presented an original story about the 17 nests which were built in her garden during the past season.

At the February meeting, held on the fourteenth, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Cilley, in The Pines, new officers for the coming year were elected. Mrs. L. M. Hill read an interesting bird story from a current magazine, and Jesse Warlick and Mrs. George Bisanar presented papers on their favorite birds. During the round table discussion, mention was made of observation of Ruby-crowned Kinglets, which are not so common here as the Golden-crowned, and Red-breasted Nuthatches, which are less common than the White-breasted Nuthatches. The hostess exhibited a bird painting done by a local artist, Miss Louise Cilley. Gifts to the new officers, to the retiring officer, and to the hostess, consisted of feeding cones—large pine cones from eastern North Carolina, stuffed with a mixture of peanut butter, corn meal, and various seeds and grains. J. WESTON CLINARD.

PIEDMONT BIRD CLUB: Greensboro people are certainly definitely interested in birds and bird life. An audience of nearly a thousand, largely mixed with children, were at the Aycock auditorium on January 8th, when Alexander Sprunt, Jr., southern representative of the National Audubon Society, presented his lecture and colored moving pictures, "From Coast to Crest," under the sponsorship of the Piedmont Bird Club.

The regular January meeting, held on the seventeenth, was devoted chiefly to the announcement of committees and committee reports. The progress of the co-operative program with the schools for attracting and protecting birds on the school grounds was reported by the education chairman, Mrs. Edith L. Settan. George Smith, program chairman, gave a tentative outline of part of the programs for the coming year, and also presented a comparison of the club's Christmas bird counts for 1944 and 1945. The club decided to make a special study of Woodpeckers, during this year. Mrs. Chas. M. Swart reported on the North Carolina Bird Club's fund which has been started to help establish a nature center in North Carolina. Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall reminded the club of the Nature Training Institute to be conducted by Reynold E. Carlson, of the National Recreation Association, at Greensboro's Community Center, from February 25th to March 1st, under the sponsorship of the North Carolina Recreation Commission, in co-operation with a number of local organizations, including the Piedmont Bird Club.

A number of members of the Piedmont Bird Club, with several bird enthusiasts from Chapel Hill and two from Durham, took a week-end trip to the Carteret county coast, on February 8th to 10th. On Friday evening, February 8th, at the Inlet Inn, at Beaufort, the group heard Dr. H. F. Prytherch, director of the U. S. fisheries laboratory at Beaufort, tell of the fisheries work in eastern North Carolina. On Saturday morning the group went to Atlantic Beach and Salter Path, and in the afternoon they took a boat trip to Cape Lookout. During the trip a total of 59 species of birds were recorded in the Carteret county coastal region. The list will be published in *The Chat* under "Field Notes and News." The following made the trip: John Carr, Mrs. Wilford Carr, Bill Craft, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hugh Craft, Larry Crawford, Mrs. R. D. Douglas, Dr. and Mrs. Archie D. Shaftesbury, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. A. Smith, and Mr. and Mrs. Chas. M. Swart, all of Greensboro; Coit M. Coker, Mr. and Mrs. Ove F. Jensen, Howard T. Odum, Mrs. David Oleson, Mr. and Mrs. G. F.

Shepherd, Jr., and the two young Shepherds, Barbara and Fremont, and Mrs. Harold Walters, all of Chapel Hill; Robert Wolffe, from Goldsboro; and Misses Libby Jones and Marion Kingston, from Durham.

At the February meeting, held on the 21st, at the Science building, Woman's College, Miss Etta Schiffman, field trip chairman for last year, gave a report of the list of birds composed of those seen first during the year by members; Dr. Charlotte Dawley talked about our three mergansers—Hooded, American, and Red-breasted; and Mrs. R. D. Douglas gave an interesting report of the recent trip which the club conducted to the coast. Attractive membership cards, decorated with Cardinals, were distributed by the treasurer, Miss Ethel McNairy.

INEZ COLDWELL, *Recording Secretary.*

Bird Club Organized at Wilmington

At a meeting held on the evening of February 25th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gregor Rohwer, with sixteen people present, the Wilmington Bird Club was organized, and officers were elected, including Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, president; Miss Helen Lovering, vice-president; Mrs. Gregor Rohwer, secretary; Warwick R. Baker, treasurer; and Miss Anne Blackwell Payne, secretary for junior work. After the business session, Mrs. Appleberry gave a brief sketch of the field identification marks of the birds which the club members might see at the present time, and with each sketch Gregor Rohwer showed the appropriate bird skins. The club then listened to some bird calls from the Cornell bird records.

During the migration season, Mr. Rohwer will conduct a field trip each Sunday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, leaving from the Lake Forest Library.

For some time Wilmington has had a number of interested bird students who were members of the North Carolina Bird Club. They are to be congratulated on securing the benefit of Gregor Rohwer's ornithological experience. Wilmington is an interesting bird region, and from the interest and enthusiasm which their leaders have already shown, the club should develop into one of the most interesting and valuable bird study groups in North Carolina.

Town of Pilot Mountain Made Bird Sanctuary

From Guy Monroe Thomas, of Pilot Mountain, N. C., we have received a copy of the February 22nd issue of *The Pilot*, which contains the proclamation, issued February 9, 1946, by Oscar W. Smith, mayor of the town of Pilot Mountain, decreeing that the incorporated area of Pilot Mountain be a bird sanctuary. Guy Monroe Thomas, who is chiefly responsible for the establishment of this new municipal bird sanctuary, says that they are grateful for helpful suggestions from Mrs. Edith Settan, who was president of the Piedmont Bird Club during the establishment of Greensboro's city sanctuary. . . Mr. Thomas plans a "Bird Life" column in the local paper, *The Pilot News*, and states that their progress so far includes: 1. A bird club in the offing; 2. Bird baths for yards are in demand (where can they be bought?); 3. Bird feeding trays are out; 4. Prizes are being given to the high school Manual Art class for the best bird houses.

CLEAN OUT NESTING BOXES: Nesting boxes are much more attractive to birds after they are thoroughly cleaned. Many birds will not use a nesting box a second time unless it has been cleaned out. Now is the time to clean out the boxes and make any necessary repairs.

Heart-Break On Our Hill

Nell E. Shell, Royal Pines, Arden, N. C.

Why the return of the Whip-Poor-Will, each year, should have caused so much rejoicing in our family, I do not know. Perhaps it was because we had come to believe that he belonged to us. That his rightful place was, really, right there in our own front yard, on the wooden bench between two trees, where he was accustomed to sit each spring, in the soft blue shadows of the fading dusk, and fill the air with his clear, brave and vigorous call. Immediately, when his first enthusiastic greeting rang out, without preliminary warning, through the peaceful stillness of our rural eventide, it was like an electric charge to every member of our family. Each one of us, even *Hottie*, the pup, was instantly transported into a state of high excitement. We would dart here and there—back to the kitchen to make sure that Lucy, our cook, had heard him (as if she could have helped it!); up stairs to some tardy member who had, of course, already discovered him; then, back to the family circle below, where each, in turn, was peering around the edge of the window curtain, breathless and enchanted, in an effort to see whether he was truly the same old friend who had been there the year before. It was hard to restrain our enthusiasm. We wanted, so much, to dash right out, in our own human way, and give voice to our welcome. But we had to remember that this was *bird family*, not human; and we had to be careful not to disturb him, lest he fly to the woodpile at the rear of the house, where he sometimes sat, out of our sight, but not out of our hearing. So, we would whisper and move quietly, when near the window, hoping that he would understand that this was our way of letting him know that we were happy about his returning. . . And we did not mind his loud calling, nor the answering call of his mate, even when they kept it up through most of the night. So joyous and unafraid they sounded! So happy and confident. It filled us with a deep sense of well-being, whenever we awoke and heard them; and we were glad, indeed, to have such visitors. . .

But, there came a night when the male's shrill call brought no response from his mate in the forest. Fear and consternation gripped us, as we waited in vain for her call. We could hear him, frantic and distraught, as he flew from hill-top to hill-top, calling, begging, beseeching. It was heart-breaking; and there was nothing that we could do about it. For three nights, he kept searching; but, after the first night, his calls grew more

discouraged—then weaker and weaker, until, at last, they stopped entirely.

If we had known how to go about it, we would have told him, after the first day, that his search would be fruitless; because we had found her, ourselves, that very next morning, lying dead upon the highway. Some speeding vehicle had crushed her. (Whip-Poor-Wills are reckless about lighting upon the roadway to wait for the insects which might be passing.)

We think, now, that *Poor Will* must have found seclusion, soon after his mate's fatal accident, in one of those mysterious places where broken bird-hearts are successfully mended; because we did not hear a Whip-Poor-Will's call, near our woodlands, for two years after his tragedy. However, this year, off in the distance, a welcome sound can be heard in the evening. We listen— fearing to become too hopeful. But, who knows? Perhaps, one spring evening, when the shadows are deepening against our windows, a sudden clear call will again electrify us, and send us scampering through the house—upstairs, downstairs and back into the kitchen—in more uncontrollable excitement than we have ever before experienced on a similar occasion. Perhaps our *Poor Will* has found solace in a new mate and is cautiously making his way, in slow stages, back to his old familiar haunts. We hope so. In fact, we confidently expect it!

With Rope and Irons

By H. H. Brimley

(Reprinted from *Ornithologist and Oologist*, October 1888, pp. 150-151.)

(Dr. C. S. Brimley, Assistant State Entomologist for many years, one of the joint authors of *Birds of North Carolina* and associate editor of *The Chat*, purchased some months ago a complete set of the old *Ornithologist and Oologist* which contains a great many papers, mostly short, written by himself and his brother, H. H. Brimley. This set runs from Volume VI, 1881, to 1893, when it stopped publication. The Brimley articles start in 1885 and continue to 1892, so the material in them is from 53 to 60 years old, and is practically inaccessible to nearly everybody. "C. S." sold his set some years ago, when he thought he was "out of the bird game for good," for perhaps $5.00, and now has bought back the whole issue for several times that amount. Here is one of the Brimley papers, and I believe several of the others also are worthy of publication. What do you readers think of this idea?—Editor.)

Plenty of information as to the finding of nests of certain birds can be gleaned from the O. & O., but the writers usually leave one in blissful ignorance of the way by which they take a difficult nest. Perhaps this omission is a delicate compliment to the inventive power of the average collector.

Most collectors can take a rare nest in some way or another and I would be glad to read some descriptions of the methods used.

Two years ago climbing irons were an unknown quantity to me and a rope just sufficiently thin to give a bad hand-hold was the only means in use in going up a tree. A Red-shouldered Hawk's nest thirty feet above the grit in a big white oak is an example. A stone attached to a light line was thrown over the lowest limb (about twenty feet up) and by means of this line, the rope was drawn over the limb and made fast. The tree was too large to hug and the rope cut my hands pretty badly, but three eggs was the result. The second laying of the same birds was fifty feet up in a pine, twenty-five feet to the lowest limb. The same method was employed, but the tree being hugable the work was not so hard, though quite hard enough for two rather dull eggs.

The next March on passing the nest, two projections appeared on the edge of the structure suggesting "Bubo". Thrashing the tree with a long pole didn't have any effect and I about gave it up, but tried a load of sixes to satisfy myself. At the crack of the gun a pair of mighty wings beat the air for a second and Mrs. Owl came crashing down. The rope was fetched and put in place and one well incubated egg brought safely down.

A Great Crested Flycatcher was watched into a knot-hole in the bare trunk of a fair sized elm, several feet below the lowest limb. The usual method put the rope over the limb, a short stick was tied to across the middle of the rope and then drawn up till it hung a foot or two below the hole, the end of the rope being then made fast to a sapling nearby. As the hole was too small to admit my hand my brother improvised an egg scoop made out of a small forked twig, with a piece of his coat lining pinned in place. I went up the rope to the cross stick with which afforded a good seat and scooped out five eggs.

The rope business got to be rather tiring, so climbers were procured, and are now considered as much of a necessity as a gun. When they came to hand, nothing would do but to try them at once. I strapped them on, waddled out to the largest tree in the yard, a small elm. I took a firm grip of the tree with my hands, shut my eyes, dug in the spurs and walked right up to the first limb. Then looking down from the dizzy height I found my feet to be at least three feet from the ground. This gave me confidence and when I did get to a sure enough tree, I rose to the occasion.

Pine Warblers' nests were found from the end of March. Early in April full sets began to be in order and with the help of the climbers I did not find much difficulty in reaching the level of the nests, few of which however, could be reached by hand from the tree trunk. A long, slender

pointed stick was used for taking those not within reach. The pointed end of the pole was carefully thrust through both sides of the nest about half way of its height and the nest being a well-woven structure the nest was in every case broken loose from its hold without material injury. This loosening process has to be done very carefully, however, otherwise the spring of the pole is liable to break the nest away suddenly and jerk out the contents. Out of ten nests taken but one shared that fate. Sixty feet up in a pine swaying in a strong breeze, the nest was at least twelve feet away. The pole was more springy than usual, the wind seemed to freshen and I seemed getting scared. In my hurry to get the eggs and come down I pulled the nest away with a jerk, it turned completely over and an empty nest was my only reward for an old-fashioned climb. It was all the more annoying from the fact that I believe from one or two scraps of egg shells I picked up below the nest that this set was of the rarest type with red spots on a pure white ground.

I have found a common reed fishing pole about the best stick to use in this method of taking nests. I carry a hundred feet of light line, the pole and egg box at end, coil the line on a clear ground below the tree, tie the other end to my belt and go aloft. When the nest is taken and packed in the egg box, the line lowers it to the ground, and a knot tied when the box has reached terra firma gives the height of nest.

A Brown-headed Nuthatch had a nest fifteen feet up a very rotten twenty-foot stub on the edge of three feet of water. A loop in the middle of the rope was passed around the stub and drawn taut after having been pushed up nearly to the hole. My brother on the land side holding one end of the rope, lowered the stub into the water as I pulled it down with the other end of the rope after wading across. The stick broke into several pieces as it struck the water, but we floated from it five handsome eggs all too far incubated to be saved.

Another Nuthatch was occupying a hole twelve or fifteen feet up a stub, too rotten to bear my weight, and too solid and heavy to pull over. Six feet from it grew a slender birch sapling, leaning away from the stub and likewise too weak to bear me. I dragged up a couple of ten-foot fence rails and tied them together with my belt and game bag strap, close to one end after being crossed, just leaving enough fork to hold the birch sapling when the long ends were stuck in the mud on the side away from the stub and far enough apart to give a wide base. This gave a very shaky climb and foothold as my weight caused the ends of the rails to sink in the mud, but after a good deal of hard work tearing out and cutting away the half

rotten wood surrounding the nest, at full arms-length I managed to secure what there was, an incomplete set of three.

A Barred Owl was rapped out of the top of a twenty foot birch stub, standing in the water. The outer wood was rotten and I had to tear away the shell with my fingers as I went up to expose a hard enough surface for the spurs to bite. The two eggs were put in my hat with some cotton and the hat replaced on my head. I did not pack in the egg box as I had all my work cut out in climbing to the old rotten stub and could only use one hand at once. The eggs which came down safely were addled—putrid, I should say and I don't think I could have blown them without parting with my dinner; I got a whiff of them at long range as my brother was calmly removing the contents and I left the room. If they had only broken when in my hat!

Colored Bird Pictures in Popular Magazines

Human interest stories and pictures of birds appear frequently in newspapers and magazines, and occasionally there appear in the popular magazines excellent black and white colored pictures of birds. Sometimes these pictures have much more than entertainment value. The Christmas, 1944, number of *The Illustrated London News* contains four large pages of colored pictures of birds and other animals, mostly birds, of Egypt sketched by a famous Egyptologist, the late Howard Carter, who was also an excellent artist and zoologist. Some of the drawings are faithful copies from ancient Egyptian artists of 4,000 years or so ago, and others represent the corresponding bird or beast as Carter himself observed it. In most cases the differences are remarkably few, and are mainly in coloring rather than in form.

Twenty-six beautiful colored plates of birds from natural color photographs accompany a splendid article, "Sights and Sounds of the Winged World," by Arthur A. Allen, Professor of Ornithology at Cornell University, in the June, 1945, issue of *The National Geographic* Magazine (vol. 87, no. 6, pp. 721-744.) The February, 1945, issue of the *Geographic* (vol. 87, no. 2, pp. 187-216) carried an article by Walter A. Weber, "Wildlife of Tobasco and Veracruz," which is accompanied by 19 striking color plates of birds and other animals, from paintings by the author. The October *National Geographic Magazine* (vol. 88, no. 4, p. 488-498), has an article by Neville W. Cayley, "The Fairy Wrens of Australia," which is accompanied by eight colored plates of these beautiful little birds from paintings by the author.

The May issue of *Coronet* has a half dozen colored pictures of young birds (including five of nests and young with adults feeding the young), from color photographs by Hal H. Harrison, who is president of the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania, and whose pictures of birds have won numerous prize awards. The text accompanying the figures was written by Leonard Dubkin, the Chicago business man who wrote *The Murmur of Wings*, and who seems to be particularly griped because people enjoy feeding and watering and protecting birds, and plant shrubs and put up nesting boxes to make up in a degree for civilized man's destruction of so much of the birds' natural food, shelter, and nesting places.

Colored pictures of three unusual tropical birds, the umbrella bird, the Costa Rican quetzal, and the fabulous cock of the rock, from sketches by Herbert Morton Stoops, are reproduced in the May 5 number of *Collier's* (vol. 115, no. 18, p. 18-ff),

together with an article, "Flame in the Forest," by William Bridges, telling of some experiences of Charles Cordier, who has brought two remarkable collections of live tropical American birds to the Bronx Zoo in the past few years.

Four full-page color plates, from bird paintings by Roger Tory Peterson, are in the Jan. 15, 1945 issue of *Life* (vol. 18, no. 3, pp. 54-58.) The pictures, which are accompanied by a brief article on "Winter Birds," are of the birds most often seen in the northern states in winter, but several of them, particularly most of those on the first three plates, are also to be seen over most of North Carolina.

Field Observation Plan

Howard T. (Tom) Odum, of Chapel Hill, has prepared a mimeographed list of a series of Field Projects suggested for the North Carolina Bird Club, which should be in the hands of observers and local bird club leaders throughout North Carolina. Following are some of the chief projects suggested.

1. *Synoptic Study of Spring Migration.* To be organized with daily observers after March 1st, wherever possible, with accumulation of data on first arrivals, abundance, and time when last seen. Of course, incidental observations of individual members are valuable. Data should be sent each month to Dr. C. S. Brimley, North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C.

2. *Song Periods.* Valuable contributions can be made by keeping records of song periods and relative volume of song. Records should be kept from February, since many species begin singing by then. The daily observers assisted by the casual observers might keep a chart together in each locality.

3. *Breeding Records.* Dates of breeding should be recorded. Field students have been participating in the Audubon Breeding Census (explained in the May-June, 1944, *Audubon Magazine*), for several years, but the Southern United States is a field of unknown facts. Careful study is involved, of a limited area of one type of environment. The plot is carefully mapped and the nests or families are located and observed from day to day. Migrants can be observed at the same time. The report should be written up as outlined in the *Audubon Magazine* and sent to both the *Audubon Magazine* and the N. C. B. C. before September. In the "Field Notes and News" of this issue of *The Chat*, is the account of a Breeding Bird Census taken at Chapel Hill, in 1942. This is probably the first such census taken in North Carolina, and it is hoped that it might stimulate others to take similar censuses.

4. *Fall Migration.* This study must be begun in July because of swallow, sandpiper, and heron movements then.

5. *Field Trips.* Odum suggests that clubs that are not conducting weekly field trips, begin them at once, since such trips will obtain many migration records, and will stimulate those new to bird study. All day counts, on the order of Christmas counts, are now made at the height of the Spring Migration, about May 1st. About June 20th would also be valuable, since it would give a picture of the breeding population. Accounts of such field days should be sent in as soon as the count is made. Statewide trips will be in order now that transportation difficulties are decreasing. The North Carolina Bird Club plans a trip to the Orton Plantation, possibly on the third week-end in May.

Representatives of each local club, and other persons interested, should send a card at once to Howard T. Odum, Box 1019, Chapel Hill, N. C., for a copy of his mimeographed outline. These plans should be further explained and discussed at the Spring meeting of the N. C. B. C., on May 11th and 12th, at Boone, N. C., so that the efforts of the local clubs and individual observers may all be co-ordinated for the discovery of new and valuable data.

The Value of Nature Notes

Thomas L. Zapf, Greensboro, N. C., and Washington, D. C.

Every nature lover should keep a brief record of what he sees or hears each day in the realm of Nature. Such records and notes may not be of very much value to others, but after several years they will contain a vast store of knowledge, from which you, at least, may derive considerable pleasure and satisfaction. Perhaps you wish to keep a list of the birds seen each day. And on this list you might desire to add other notes, such as the blooming of flowers, the calls of the frogs and insects, and other observations of usual or unusual occurrences. Your list should include that name of the observer, or observers, dates, time of day, condition of the weather, and the locality. These notes, records, and lists, should be kept in an orderly manner and protected from the weather. They may be in a notebook form or they may consist of daily "check lists," although check lists do not afford space for interesting notes which are often desirable. Use a simple system, with nothing left for the memory to retain. An interesting by product of these daily records will likely be your "life list" of birds. Although usually of little scientific value because of lack of dates and localities, watching this list grow will afford a lot of pleasure. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that all notes and records should be as accurate as possible. Many birds which I have seen have not been included in my records because of a possibility of error in identification. On foggy days, it is difficult to tell the colors of birds. A Sharp-shinned Hawk far up in the air may look like a Cooper's Hawk. In this case, the only fairly definite identifying feature would be the square tail. The entry of a Cooper's Hawk on the records might be inaccurate. In case of the birds just mentioned, your records might not be seriously questioned, but if you took this Sharp-shinned Hawk to be a Goshawk, and an ornithologist who was familiar with the distribution of the Goshawk in North Carolina got a glimpse of your record, you might be very much embarrassed.

Often on field trips or in your own back yard, you will see a bird which you have not seen before.

By all means write on paper a suitable description of the bird. This might include it's relative length, color of the head, neck, tail, and breast, and other distinctive markings, the shape and perhaps color of the bill, songs, movements, and behavior, and last, but not least, the place where it was seen—on the ground, in a tree, etc. Do not trust your memory. Your memory may retain well the description of one bird for a short time, but when another bird is added, the latter may crowd out the memory of the former.

A word about songs may be of interest. I know of no easier way to identify birds than by their songs. Yet this very easy way may invite inaccuracy. Once in the field, pointing out birds to a Boy Scout, I heard a song that seemed to be that of a Song Sparrow. The Scout had never seen a Song Sparrow, so I decided to show this one to him. We quietly approached, and out flew a Bewick's Wren. He sang again the "Song Sparrow song," thus proving my first identification incorrect. A Mockingbird will imitate the calls of many birds, but usually with more force and vigor. Too, a Mockingbird seldom repeats the same song for any length of time.

A few minutes spent each day writing your nature notes should bring to you great enjoyment, and will perhaps eventually be of some scientific value. If you do nothing but observe birds from your window, be sure to take notes and keep daily records of the birds identified. Keep a record. (November 4, 1944.)

Some North Carolina Bird Notes

J. J. Murray, Lexington, Virginia
(Editor, *The Raven*, Official Organ, the Virginia Society of Ornithology)

As a former resident of North Carolina I have been very proud of the splendid State book, *Birds of North Carolina*, by Pearson and the Brimleys. In the course of occasional trips to the state in recent years I have made some notes which in some small measure supplement the information in that book. While of no great importance, they may help to round out the knowledge of the distribution of some of the birds in North Carolina.

Swallow-tailed Kite—*Elanoides f. forficatus.* The first of these records I found in an old book, *North American Oology*, by Thomas M. Brewer, page 114. This book came out in *Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge*, Vol. XI, Washington, D. C., 1859. In the Supplement, Dr. Brewer writes: "Since the portion which relates to the Swallow-tailed Hawk has been printed, I have learned, by letter from Maxcy Gregg, Esq., of Columbia, South Carolina, some additional facts in regard to the geographical distribution of this Hawk. . . . He (Gregg) adds: 'I may here mention, that I once in the end of July saw many of these Hawks sailing about near the top of the Balsam Mountain, one of the loftiest and wildest mountains in North Carolina. . . . I was told by a mountaineer, who was a great hunter and very observant, that they are seen in that vicinity every summer. The circumstance attracted my attention, because I had never seen the Swallow-tailed Hawk in any other part of the mountains, from South

Carolina to Virginia, although I had rambled a good deal through that region'."

Cooper's Hawk. *Accipiter cooperi.* I have a nest record for Robeson County, near Red Springs, May 4, 1936.

Eastern Pigeon Hawk—*Falco c. columbarius.* Alexander Sprunt, Jr., and I have seen it at Blowing Rock a number of times: e.g., August 18, 20, 21, 1929; August 31, 1932 (35 in migration flight).

Least Sandpiper—*Pisobia minutilla.* I have winter record at the extreme northern edge of the State, a flock of 25 seen, January 21, 1923, by a group of Virginia Society of Ornithology observers, on the causeway to Knott's Island, just inside the North Carolina line.

Black-billed Cuckoo—*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus.* I have several summer records at Blowing Rock: August 24 and 30, 1929; August 8, 1935.

Red-cockaded Woodpecker—*Dryobates borealis.* I may add Robeson to the counties where it has been found nesting. I found a nest near Shannon, May 17, 1930, with young. It was 40 feet up in a living long-leaf pine. The adults before reaching the nest invariably gave a sharp call; and the young then immediately began to cry out loudly.

Prairie Horned Lark—*Octocoris alpestris praticola.* A flock of eight, seen at Blowing Rock, August 17, 1937, probably indicate nesting. I saw a small flock of Horned Larks, probably of this subspecies, near Burgaw, Pender County, November 19, 1942.

Roughed-winged Swallow—*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis serripennis.* On July 13, 1938, I saw swallows that I took to be this species (although it is barely possible that they were Bank Swallows) flying in and out of the stone water drains at the top of the Assembly Inn at Montreat. They appeared to be nesting in these small drains.

Veery—*Hylocichla f. fuscescens.* The thrush is very common at Blowing Rock, especially on the road toward Linville. I have also often heard it singing near the highway, some ten miles east of Boone.

Eastern Golden-crowned Kinglet—*Regulus s. satrapa.* On August 5 and 7, 1932, I found a pair feeding two young in a dense grove of spruces at the head of Cone's Lake at Blowing Rock. This was at an elevation of about 3,600 or 3,700 feet, which is considerably lower than evidence for breeding has been hitherto found. These young birds could fly well enough to follow their parents from tree to tree but not well enough to have come the long distance from any high spruce area in that section of the mountains.

Black and White Warbler—*Mniotilta varia. Birds of North Carolina* records this bird as breeding only in the west and central parts of the State. On May 6, 1935, I found a young bird just able to fly in Paradise Swamp, at the edge of the campus of Flora Macdonald College, Red Springs, in Robeson County.

Tennessee Warbler—*Vermivora peregrina.* An uncommon migrant at Blowing Rock in late summer. In eleven late summers at Blowing Rock I only found it on September 1, 1932, and on September 2 and 3, 1941. It may be more common later in September.

Eastern Yellow Warbler—*Dendroica a. aestiva.* I have seen one at St. Pauls, Robeson County, in the latter part of May (1930); also on May 1, 1935.

Yellow Palm Warbler—*Dendroica palmarum hypochrysea.* I have another winter record for this bird; several individuals seen at Red Springs, January 15-17, 1929.

Louisiana Water-thrush—*Seiurus motacilla.* I have heard birds singing in Robeson County on dates which would seem to indicate breeding: two at St. Pauls, May 1, 1935; one at Red Springs, May 6, 1935.

Yellow-breasted Chat—*Icteria v. virens.* Birds of North Carolina (1942) states that "it appears to be absent in summer from the eastern part of the State." I found it com-

mon in Robeson County, near Shannon, May 12-22, 1930; and saw two at Red Springs, May 7, 1935. C. S. Brimley, John H. Grey, and I found three at Atlantic Beach, Morehead City, May 11, 1936. These dates suggest breeding.

Meadowlark (probably Eastern)—*Sturnella magna subsp.* I have found this bird fairly common at Boone in late summer; uncommon at Blowing Rock.

Purple Grackle—*Quiscalus quiscula subsp.* Not uncommon around Blowing Rock in late July and through August. I do not know its status earlier in summer, as I have rarely been in that section until mid-July.

Eastern Cardinal—*Richmondena c. cardinalis.* The comment, "Whole state at all seasons," needs some qualification as regards high areas like Blowing Rock. There it is exceedingly scarce. In eleven extensive late summer visits I have only seen this bird a few times.

Eastern Goldfinch—*Spinus t. tristis.* As an example of very late nesting, Alexander Sprunt and I found a fledgling at Blowing Rock on August 31, 1929, that had apparently just left the nest.

(August 31, 1945.)

Field Notes and News

LOOK FOR EVENING GROSBEAKS! It seems evident that there has been a "flight" of Evening Grosbeaks in the eastern United States this winter. They have been reported in New York all winter, and have already been observed in at least two localities in North Carolina, Salisbury and High Point, apparently the first North Carolina records in 24 years. We can safely accept records for them for they are not likely to be mistaken for anything else. C. S. B.

EVENING GROSBEAKS AT SALISBURY: During the last two weeks in January, we have seen a large flock of strange birds feeding on the seeds of an ash and a maple in our yard. After a week (on January 23rd), I had a view near enough and clear enough to identify. After watching three of these birds from a window as they drank water in the gutter less than ten feet away, I brought out the books, and from the exact picture and description in "Birds of America," I found the birds are Evening Grosbeaks! Have they ever been seen so far south before? They look very much like overgrown Goldfinches with a white band on the tail and large white spots on the wings. They have a "chip" something like the Cardinals, but sharper and not so loud. They "Chip" all together as the Sparrows do.

CLARA KNOX, 303 West Bank Street, Salisbury, N. C.

(Evening Grosbeaks have only previously been recorded in North Carolina twenty-four years ago, in 1922, when a flock was seen at Chapel Hill, where two were killed by Dr. W. C. Coker, on March 8th. In the same year they were also noted at Salisbury on March 26th and April 1st, by E. M. Hoffman, Elmer E. Brown, and others.—C. S. B.)

EVENING GROSBEAKS AT HIGH POINT, N. C.: At noon on March 4th, as I came into the driveway of my home in High Point, N. C., I was rather startled to see fly up before me what I took to be a pair of Evening Grosbeaks. I stepped into the house and checked with my "Birds of North Carolina," and it proved to be without a doubt, a pair, male and female, of Evening Grosbeaks. Together with my wife and small son, I watched them feeding in our yard and then across the street in a neighbor's driveway. They did not seem to be at all wild and we approached within twenty feet without difficulty. Our yard has considerable shrubbery and there are red maples and a walnut tree over this. Since it appeared that this bird has not been often seen in North Carolina, I thought that this observation might be worth recording.

JAMES R. MATTOCKS.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.: In this neighborhood I've seen little of interest during the winter—might mention Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, (Red-headed Woodpecker is becoming rare), and Woodcock, the latter on four occasions.
HENRY RANKIN, JR.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.: Jim Layton and Binford Moon saw four Whistling Swans near Pineville, Mecklenburg county, during the Christmas holidays. Another which should be added to the Charlotte list is the Tennessee Warbler. I saw one in my own garden on October 15, 1944. ELIZABETH BARNHILL CLARKSON.

MORE ABOUT HORNED LARKS AT ELKIN, N. C.: At Klondike Farm, Elkin, N. C., on the morning of January 5th, between 8:40 and 10:40, I had a very good opportunity to observe 15 Horned Larks with a 6-power binocular from a distance of about 30 to 18 feet. A heavy blanket of fog which limited visibility to about 100 yards, and the position I occupied against a vertical fence post in a rail fence, seemed to obscure my presence from the birds and they walked to within 18 feet of me before taking flight. I believe these birds were Prairie Horned Larks, and believe that the ones which I listed on my Christmas count, December 29, 1945, were of the same sub-species. Today, the throats of all birds examined closely still appeared yellow, but the eye line was white without any visible yellow. The black and white about the face was in definite contrast to the yellowish throat. These birds, about 75 in number, were in the same pasture where I observed Horned Larks on December 29, 1945. ROBERT H. WITHERINGTON.

ELKIN, N. C.: On January 1st, I observed a Red-breasted Nuthatch at Klondike Farm, Elkin, for about five minutes in a group of white pines. The bird was very rapid in its movement while searching for food in the branches and on the trunks of the trees and pecked in woodpecker fashion several times on the trunks.

Towhees are conspicuous by their absence. Have been unable to locate any during field trips on December 29th, January 1th, and January 5th, but on January 3rd, I saw one flying across the highway at Reynolda, in Winston-Salem, which is about 35 miles to the south. ROBERT H. WITHERINGTON.

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C.: On January 3rd, S/2 Richard Borden and I were at Morehead City, and saw a number of Hooded and Red-breasted Mersansers, Buffle-head and Ring-neck Ducks, and Ring-billed and Herring Gulls, the latter in approximate numbers of several thousand. ROBERT L. WOLFF, Goldsboro, N. C.

BEAUFORT, N. C.: On February 9th and 10th, a group of about 25 bird students, mostly from the Piedmont Bird Club, Greensboro, and the Chapel Hill Bird Club, made a trip to Beaufort, N. C., and visited nearby coastal regions, including Bogue Banks, from Salter Path and Atlantic Beach to Fort Macon, with a boat trip from Harker's Island to Cape Lookout. The weather was mild, from 50° to 65° most of the time, mostly hazy and overcast, finally turning to rain late Saturday afternoon. A list of all species of birds observed, compiled by Howard T. Odum, of Chapel Hill, and Lawrence A. Crawford, Jr., of Greensboro, totaled 57 species, including: Common Loon, Red-throated Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Black Duck, Buffle-head Duck, Old Squaw Duck, American Scoter, Hooded Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Killdeer, Black-bellied Plover, Greater Yellow-legs, Sanderling, Herring Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Mourning Dove, Belted Kingfisher, Flicker, Phoebe, Blue Jay, Fish Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Carolina Wren, Mocking-

bird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Hermit Thrush, Bluebird, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Shrike, Starling, Myrtle Warbler, Pine Warbler, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Boat-tailed Grackle, Purple Grackle, Cardinal, Purple Finch, Goldfinch, White-eyed (?) Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Seaside Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, and Song Sparrow. Only a very few ducks of each species were seen, except Red-breasted Mergansers. Various members of the party estimated that well over 1,000 of these were seen on the sound between Harker's Island and Cape Lookout. Herring Gulls were present in thousands, and Ring-billed Gulls were not nearly as numerous as the Herring Gulls. A flock of 8 Black-bellied Plover were observed at Cape Lookout. A flock of 40 or more Purple Finches were repeatedly observed on the grounds of the laboratory of the United States Fish & Wildlife Service, at Beaufort, and Purple Finches were abundant in the low trees along the roadway along Bogue Banks, a few score yards back from the ocean beach. Towhees with a peculiar rasping *zreeek* call were numerous along the banks road. Some of these were observed to have yellowish eyes and possibly were "White-eyed" Towhees, though there was considerable variation in the calls, and some might have been Red-eyed. No Juncos were observed.

A. D. S.

BEAUFORT, N. C.: This past week-end, the 16th and 17th of February, I was at Beaufort. I wish I had been there with you the previous week. I didn't get to do any real birding, but here is the list, for what value it is. Heron, Great Blue, 1; Scaup Duck (presumably greater, though I didn't get close enough to tell), 22; American Golden-eye, 1; Bufflehead, 24; Red-breasted Merganser, 40; Turkey Vulture, 3; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Bald Eagle, 3 (2 immatures, and 1 adult); Marsh Hawk, 2; Herring Gull, 2000 plus; Ring-billed Gull, 4; Mourning Dove, 4; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Fish Crow, 4; Carolina Wren, 2; Mockingbird, 5; Robin, 11; Bluebird, 5; Cedar Waxwing, 7; Starling, 4; Myrtle Warbler, 24; English Sparrw, 16; Purple Grackle, 3; Cardinal, 1; Chipping Sparrow, 9; Field Sparrow, 20; White-throated Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 15. Total, 28 species. T. L. QUAY.

MORE ABOUT MOUNTAIN BIRDS: Reference is made to the paragraph entitled "Mountain Birds" on page 18 of the January, 1946, issue of *The Chat*. Since most of the species reported upon were observed in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park where rather intensive study of bird migration has been carried on for more than a decade, I wish to question certain of the records.

Whereas Purple Finches were reported from the park area on August 28th, our earliest autumn record for this species is October 20th. Purple Finches are not known to breed south of West Virginia in eastern United States. The record of Tree Swallows on August 29th, likewise appears questionable; although that species has been observed in late August in eastern North Carolina, its earliest occurrence at Raleigh is given as September 27th (*Birds of North Carolina*—1942), and the species is a rare autumn migrant in the mountains.

In view of the date when the following species were reported, the Black-throated Blue Warbler should be termed Cairns' Warbler, the Brown Creeper should be termed Southern Brown Creeper, and the Winter Wren should be designated the Southern Winter Wren; these are the subspecies which have definitely been recognized as the breeding forms in the Southern Appalachian region.

ARTHUR STUPKA, Parks Naturalist,
Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Gatlinburg, Tenn.

BREEDING BIRD CENSUS, CHAPEL HILL, 1942 — Young-Upland Oak-Hickory Forest. Many Pines remaining in the transition from Pine woods to Oak-hickory climax; forest crown somewhat open with substratum of Dogwood, Sour-

wood, Sassafras, and Redbud averaging 25 feet high; fairly thick undergrowth of saplings and shrubs; thin crown in NW corner allows several Pine saplings; trees average about 50 feet high and 10 inches DBH; crown trees 56% oak (White, 15%; Scarlet, 14%; Black, 11%; Southern Red, 8%; Post, 8%; Black Jack, 1%); Pine, 17%; White Heart Hickory, 14%; Black Gum, 8%; and 3% Cedar and Tulip Poplar; along the stream is a narrow line of Tulip Poplar (56%) and Red Maple (44%) 50 ft. high and 9 inches DBH with substratum of Magnolia, Alder, and lush growth of saplings averaging about 15 feet; not disturbed by man for at least 30 years. SIZE: Approximately 25 acres (400x300 with string) of typical Piedmont woodland of N. C. LOCATION: Near the state university campus at Chapel Hill, N. C.; tract bordered on four sides by similar forest. TOPOGRAPHY: Two hills sloping to a small dividing stream. EDGE: Slight effect produced by road and narrow clearing running through the woods along 150 yards of the SW corner; this attracted 3 pairs. SURVEYS: Many trips during migrations of past two years; map completed March 20; tree counts August 30th. COVERAGE: Total of 58 hours on 51 days between March 6 and July 30, with from 15 minutes to 7 hours per trip; average 70 minutes, between 5 A. M. and 11 P. M. CENSUS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 1P; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 2P; Downy Woodpecker, 1N; Crested Flycatcher, 1P; Acadian Flycatcher, 1P, 1N, 1Y; Wood Pewee, 1N; Carolina Chickadee, 1N; Tufted Titmouse, 1P; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1N; Wood Thrush, 4P, 2Y, 2N; Yellow-throated Vireo, 1P; Red-eyed Vireo, 5P, 1N, 1Y; Black and White Warbler, 2P; Yellow-throated Warbler, 2P; Pine Warbler, 2P, 1Y; Ovenbird, 3P, 1N; Summer Tanager, 1N. Total: 17 species, 40 pairs. DENSITY: 160 pairs per 100 acres. Regular visitors: Broad-winged Hawk, 1P; Blue Jay, 2P; Hairy Woodpecker, 1P; Chimney Swift, (?) pairs; Turkey Vulture, (?) pairs. FINAL DENSITY: 376 adults per 100 acres. HOWARD T. ODUM, Chapel Hill, N. C.

WINSTON-SALEM: The club hike on February 23rd, through Reynolda Bird Sanctuary section included a study of last year's nests in the two miles of privet hedge, 6 to 10 feet high and in the planted shade trees in which we found many Cardinal, Mockingbird, Vireo, Warbler, and other nests; and noticeable was the abundance of winter berry food on the ornamental shrubbery, all adding up to the indisputable fact that the organized bird sanctuary on a large scale is and will increase our bird population. Fewer crows were seen in this section where in one year before the war some 1,500 crows were destroyed as a menace to bird life. English Sparrows appear to be less than former years, possibly because we have an active English Sparrow trapper in our club. Bluebirds were numerous, beautiful plumage coloration, several pairs were seen near nesting boxes and I report a "bird-housing shortage" existing which we bird lovers can remedy without Government aid and NOW is the time to build and erect, before the mating season.

WILLIAM H. CHANCE, JR.

PRIMITIVE NESTING OF THE CAROLINA WREN: I have had occasion to see a bird's adapting to man's arrival in the primitive forest, the same sort of thing that must have happened in the days of our pioneer ancestors' arrival in the woods. Like the Chimney Swift and his original hollow tree house, the Carolina Wren before the advent of houses was (and still is) in its wild-wood habitat a builder in other situations than the usual tin-can, bird-box, barn-loft, and such, that we have accepted as natural in the towns. I have assumed that they would use hollow places in the rocks, maybe small hollow trees, and perhaps they do, but the one I observed didn't. He seemed to go still further back in the evolution of nest building of the wren family.

Five and a half years ago, when we first came into the big forest here, far from barns or any civilized dwellings, we found the Carolina Wren singing up the creek,

but they would not even venture near our cabin and small outhouses that we erected. But in the fourth winter one came about our houses hunting spiders in the eaves. A few days before the middle of June, 1945, I found that a pair had built a few feet from our front door. They were carrying food to their young. I assumed they had built in the eaves where there were some nice conventional sites. But not so, they had built in a hole in the ground that they had partly excavated and that was originally a small opening under a stump. They had lined the interior of the hole well and reduced the opening to only room to go in and out. So it may possibly be that in the old days, the fellow who has so well adapted to town sites was a builder of tunnel nests, like the kingfisher. However, I am expecting them to go through the same "improvements" the town wrens (and the town descendents of human pioneers) have gone through, and that by and by they will be building in eaves, hay-barns and bird-boxes. ERNEST SEEMAN, Tumbling Creek, Tenn.

PIED-BILLED GREBE'S NEST: In May 1913 while surveying location of what is now the Seaboard Airline R. R. into Charleston, S. C., found a nest of the thick-billed Grebe containing six eggs which I collected. The nest was made of grass and weeds and was floating on water. HOWARD WISWALL.

DOVEKIE AT MYRTLE BEACH, N. C.: Dovekie was observed on November 17, 1945, at Myrtle Beach, S. C., and verified from "Birds of North Carolina," (1942), pages 186-187. FRED K. GARVEY, (M.D., N. C. Baptist Hospital), Winston-Salem, N. C.

MILFORD, DELAWARE: On my return from the South, I was amazed to find a Mockingbird singing on the lawn on October 20th. Also saw one at Bridgeville, 23 miles south of Milford, Del., on December 8th. On January 16th, when this note was written, Mockingbird was still at Milford.

SUSAN J. ALLEN, Sunnybrae, Milford, Delaware.

(Miss Allen says that when she first left Southern Pines, N. C., she planned to resign from the N. C. B. C., but changed her mind because she wished to continue *The Chat* and be that much in touch with N. C. B. C., "which is doing such good work." She said she would miss the birds she fed, especially the Catbirds.—A. D. S.)

MAGNOLIA TREES ATTRACT THRUSHES: I have been much interested in the list of plants and trees which can be set out for bird food. I want to add a tree to the list, the Evergreen Magnolia. I have one in my garden and it attracts great numbers of thrushes in their fall migration. I have seen Hermit Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, and Veery, feeding on the trees at the same time. The magnolia pods open about October first, just as the northern thrushes are passing through Tryon. To quote from my note book, under date of October 8, 1943: "Great numbers of birds feeding on the magnolia tree. Two species of thrushes, Flickers, Robins, Cardinals, Catbirds, Jays, and Doves." The only drawback to planting this tree is that you will have to wait at least ten years before it will do much blooming, unless fairly large trees are transplanted. C. H. HOLMES, Tryon. N. C.

BIRDING IN NEW JERSEY AND GEORGIA—A CONTRAST: Back from three years of the army and as much of the warm climate of Georgia, my first bird trip was a mid-winter expedition to the Atlantic coast with members of the Urner Club, of Newark, New Jersey. Gasoline rationing was over on this January Sunday, and eight cars loaded with 40 birders, made the trip along the shore in the neighborhood of Belmar, Asbury Park, and the Atlantic Highlands.

The contrast with Southern birding was impressive. In Georgia, I had come to take the soaring vultures for granted; there were none here. The enthusiasts among

the group were looking for a Cardinal, and it was hard to remember that we wouldn't see one in every bush. There was even some talk of a Mockingbird, for one had been spotted a few weeks before in Jersey. That a Mockingbird should be a rarity—well, I kept pinching myself to make sure I wasn't in some restless dream.

Just before leaving Augusta, Georgia, I had gone with Alexander Sprunt, Jr., to visit Bull's Island. From a government boat, we had been thrilled by the Oystercatcher, and chilled by the breezes off South Carolina. But they were nothing like these Jersey coastal winds, which seemed to come straight from the North Pole. Only my eyes were showing from a bundle of all the clothes I could find, but keeping the eyes open was a problem. Searching off-shore, trying to distinguish Common from Red-throated Loons, water flowed in streams from those tired, reddened eyes. The binoculars seemed glued in place, and focusing was an effort for both hands. Surely a change to winter lubrication was in order.

Yet the trip was a thrilling one, for the comparative scarcity of birds was made up for by the quality. Loons, Cormorants, Mergansers, and Black-backed Gulls mingled indescriminately. A saw-whet Owl was picked up dead on the highway. A raft of 5,000 or more Scaup Ducks formed a magnificent spectacle as the observer stood on the Atlantic Highlands and looked down upon the birds in their winter feeding grounds. And it was a thrill when the caravan of cars stopped their racing down the beach, as one keen-eyed observer had spotted a Gannet among the hordes of Herring Gulls.

On the inland ponds, just back of the beach, a Pin-tail, a European Widgeon, and a Green-winged Teal added novelty to the day. The smaller birds were wisely taking cover from the biting wind, and this writer looked in vain for the White-throats which would surely have been scraping the leaves in Dixie.

Ornithologists on a winter trip like this make an added search—for the dead birds which are the toll of the storms. It was too cold for any methodical searching, but the party picked up two dead Dovekies and a Murre. Damage done by the oil of wrecked ships was confirmed, both by the dead birds and by the oil-soaked specimens that struggled pitifully to fly from shore.

Birding is the most fun, I suppose, in the places you know best. That's why I am looking forward to the May migration, when the Redstarts and Oven-birds will make the woods of Jersey a happy place for this returned soldier. But I shall miss the Painted Buntings, too, and the deep cypress swamps where the Sapsucker drummed, and the parks where the Red-headed Woodpeckers make themselves at home. Dixie was a nice place for birding, and the people who lived there made it pleasant for the stranger.

LOUIS C. FINK, Rutherford, New Jersey.

With the Editor

FIELD TRIP PLANNED TO ORTON PLANTATION: Miss Clara Hearne, president of the North Carolina Bird Club, has announced the appointment of Howard T. Odum as chairman of the state Field Trip Committee, and Odum is planning a trip to Orton Plantation, and the Wilmington-Southport region, for some time in May. If you are interested in this trip, drop a card to: Howard T. Odum, Field Trip Chairman, N. C. B. C., Box 1019, Chapel Hill, N. C.

AN EXHIBIT OF ORIGINAL JOHN JAMES AUDUBON WATER COLORS OF BIRDS—Opened January 27th, at the Museum of the New York Historical Society, Central Park West at 76th Street, and will remain open until July 14th. The main feature of this special exhibit is the showing of the priceless original water colors for his great work, "The Birds of America." A part of the exhibit tells the story of the various techniques and media employed by Audubon in the production of his water colors and the problems involved in engraving these life size original drawings

on elephant folio size copper plates. Another section of the exhibit is devoted to 24 water colors never before exhibited, and never reproduced or published. Museum hours are from 1:00 to 5:00 p. m. daily except Mondays, when it is closed, and from 10:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. on Saturdays. There is no admission charge.

SANCTUARY COMMITTEE: Miss Clara Hearne, President of the North Carolina Bird Club, has appointed the following to be members of the Sanctuary Committee of the N. C. Bird Club. Henry Magie, chairman, Reynolds Bldg., Winston-Salem, N. C.; Mrs. George Potter, 2111 Malvern Road., Charlotte, N. C.; and Dr. D. L. Wray, Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C. For information regarding the establishment of sanctuaries, write to them.

MAMMALS OF NORTH CAROLINA: Harry T. Davis, Director of the N. C. Museum, at Raleigh, has announced the publication of a booklet, "The Mammals of North Carolina," which is available for free distribution to schools and public libraries of the state. The booklet was written by Dr. C. S. Brimley, assistant state entomologist, with the department of agriculture. It summarizes the results of fifty years' observations by Dr. Brimley, and describes a total of 87 species of mammals which have been recorded in North Carolina. Two of these species, the wapiti or elk and the bison or buffalo, have been extinct in this state for many years, and two others, the puma or panther and the timber wolf are possibly no longer found in North Carolina.

N. C. B. C. SPEAKERS AT GARDEN CLUBS: The Siler City Garden Club, Mrs. Paul Braxton, president, began bird month activities on February 6th at a meeting held in the Chatam Hotel when Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury was guest speaker to the club and guests, members of the Community Garden Club and the Garden Lover Club. The bird chairman, Mrs. Henry Pike, presented the speaker. The club has recently organized Junior Audubon clubs in the first seven grades in all the Siler City schools . . . Winston-Salem's "Club of 20 Gardens," heard Henry Magie speak February 14th, on "Our Winston-Salem Song Birds." There was a big attendance and marked interest, with pledges of more feeders, and concerted effort to establish bird sanctuaries in the two-mile square area of the Ctiy Water Works and Salem College.

N. C. BIRD CLUB MEMBERS IN PRINT: We have received a copy of an enlightening address, "What About Japan," given by Chas. H. Stone, before the Charlotte, N. C., Rotary Club, on Tuesday, September 18, 1945, and printed and distributed through the courtesy of Charles O. Kuester. . . . "From the Orient to Dixie," in the January, 1946, *Nature Magazine*, volume 39, number 2, pages 69-71, and written by Charlotte Hilton Green, of Raleigh, is an interesting, illustrated story of the migration of the Chinaberry tree from India and China to the Southern United States. Among other things, I learned that the more common "umbrella tree" form is probably not due to pruning or trimming, but is believed to have originated in Texas, as a "sport," or natural variety.

WINTER BIRDS: I have enjoyed many chuckles over the following whimsey written by L. H. R. in his column, "About—," in the New York Times, February 13, 1944. "Charming visitors come to the feeding station at our breakfast window these February mornings; one day a flock of ruby-throated chickadees, another day a family of rose-breasted titmice, and last Tuesday six great-horned cardinal nuthatches, five of which seemed to be females, though they may have been young males. (P.S. We aren't quite certain of those bird names, but we so envy the easy assurance of the professional nature writers in the matter of identifying species that we take a chance. The only bird we absolutely know is the crested American bluebird. He flashes to the window with his warble of 'Jay! Jay! Jay!' and is very fond of peanuts.)"

Note: This Is Your Official Notice of the Annual Meeting. Do Not Fail to Read It At Once

Tentative Program for Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Bird Club

Boone, N. C., May 11 and 12, 1946
(Host—Boone Bird Club, Dr. R. C. Busteed, President)

SATURDAY, MAY 11

11:00 A. M. to 2:30 P. M.—Registration, in lobby of Administration Building, Appalachian State Teachers' College. (A small registration fee is required to help defray a part of the expense of a special lecture). Room assignments will be made at this time.

(11:00 A. M.—Meeting of Executive Committee)

12:30 P. M.—Luncheon—Carolina Cafe dining room; $1.00 a plate. This includes all who arrive by noon. *(Read Important Note Below.)*

2:30 P. M.—General Meeting, Auditorium of Administrative Building. (Meeting will start on time.)
Announcement of Committees
Recognition of returned service men, with brief talks (limited to four minutes each.)
Reports of Local Bird Clubs (limited to 4 minutes each)
Presentation of Papers *(Members who expect to present papers* should submit titles *at once* to Miss Clara Hearne, President North Carolina Bird Club, Roanoke Rapids, N. C.)

4:15 P. M.—Tea.

5:00 P. M.—Tour of campus and visit to the Crafts Shop.

6:30 P. M.—Annual Dinner—Cafeteria, Appalachian State Teachers' College. *(Read Important Note Below.)*
Reports: Membership, New Clubs, Field Trip, *The Chat*, Treasurer, Auditing Committee, Nominating Committee, Election of Officers, President's Report, Presentation of invitations to next fall and spring meetings, Resolutions. *(All reports must be in writing.)*

8:00 P. M.—Evening Lecture, by guest speaker. Auditorium, Appalachian State Teachers' College. (Efforts are being made to get a lecturer from the National Audubon Society.)

9:00 P. M.—Folk Dancing, Girls' Gymnasium.

SUNDAY, MAY 12

7:00 A. M.—Breakfast, Carolina Cafe; followed by hike to estate of Mrs. Combs. For those who desire it, a trip to Snake Mountain to see a Raven colony.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Are you going to the State meeting in Boone on May 11? Do you plan to attend the Luncheon? Will you attend the Annual Dinner? Do you plan to spend the night? Please notify: Miss Cora P. Jeffcoat, Daniel Boone Park, 504 Grand Blvd., Boone, N. C. PLEASE CO-OPERATE WITH THE BOONE BIRD CLUB BY SENDING IN THIS INFORMATION BY MAY 3.

Local Clubs and Their Officers

Arden, Rosscraggon Wood, Inc.: P—Major V. M. Shell, Arden; V-P—Mrs. H. B. Swope, Skyland; S-T—H. B. Swope, Skyland

Asheville Bird Club: P—Capt. W. A. Angwin, U. S. N.; V-P—Arthur Brimley; S—Mrs. M. F. Meredith; T—Mrs. Francis E. Field.

Blowing Rock, Blowing Rock Audubon Club: P—Miss Lena Reeves; V-P—Mrs. Joe Winkler

Boone Bird Club: P—Mrs. Mack Luttrell; V-P—Mrs. W. M. Burwell and Mr. Norton; S-T—Miss Cora Jeffcoat.

Chapel Hill Bird Club: P—Dr. Maurice Whittinghill; V-P—Mrs. C. H. Pegg; S—Mrs. O. F. Jensen; T—Mrs. R. B. Sharpe.

Charlotte, Mecklenburg Audubon Club: P—B. Rhett Chamberlain, 1320 Biltmore Drive; V. P.—Sarah Nooe; S—Miss Margaret Coble, 1135 Buchanan St., T—Josephine A. Osborne, Publicity Chairman—Mrs. G. C. Potter, 2111 Malvern Rd., Charlotte 4.

Concord, Rex Brasher Bird Club.

Durham, Duke-Durham Bird Club: P—Miss Bertha B. Hopkins, 506 Buchanan Road; S-T—Mrs. M. W. Johnson.

Greensboro, Piedmont Bird Club: P—Archie D. Shaftesbury; V-P—Mrs. George Perrett and Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall; Rec. S—Miss Inez Coldwell; Cor. S—Miss Etta Schiffman, 319 W. Washington St.; T—Miss Ethel McNairy; Ex. Comm.—Mrs. Edith Settan, Mrs. Chas. Swart.

Guilford College, T. Gilbert Pearson Bird Club: P—Elizabeth Hare; V-P—J. G. Gilbert; S-T—Margery Pickett.

Henderson Bird Club: P—Miss Elizabeth Fox; V-P—Mrs. A. W. Bachman; S-T—Miss Garnette Myers.

Hickory Bird Club: P—J. Weston Clinard; V-P—Mrs. George E. Bisanar; S-T—Mrs. George Fuller.

Lenoir Audubon Club: P—Fred H. May, 211 Beall St.; V-P—Thos. Parks; S—Miss May Puett, 512 West Harper St.

Raleigh Bird Club: P—Harry T. Davis; V-P—Ernest Mitchell, Jr.; S—F. B. Meacham, State Museum; Ex. Comm.—J. H. Slaughter, G. M. Garren.

Roanoke Rapids Bird Club: P—Mrs. A. O. Pendleton, R. 1, Bolling Rd.; V-P—Mrs. C. E. Matthews; S—Miss Mary Hix, 536 Hamilton St.; T—Mrs. R. G. Knight

Salisbury Bird Club.

Southern Pines Bird Club: P—Mary Keller Wintyen; V-P & S—Miss Louise Haynes; T. & Rec. Sec.—Miss Norma Shiring

Statesville Audubon Club: P—Miss Nancy B. Eliason; V-P—Miss Grace Anderson; S—Mrs. Calhoun Ramsey; T—Mrs. Earl Davis.

Tryon Bird Club: P—G. H. Holmes; S-T—Katherine D. Hamilton

Washington, Bughouse Laboratory: P—Sally Bogart; S-T—Elizabeth Shelton; Director, Joe Biggs

Winston-Salem Bird Club: P—Henry Magie; S-T—Wm. S. Rothrock, 2434 Stockton St.; Directors—Charles H. Babcock, Thurmond Chatham, Jr., Richard J. Reynolds, II.

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

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The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

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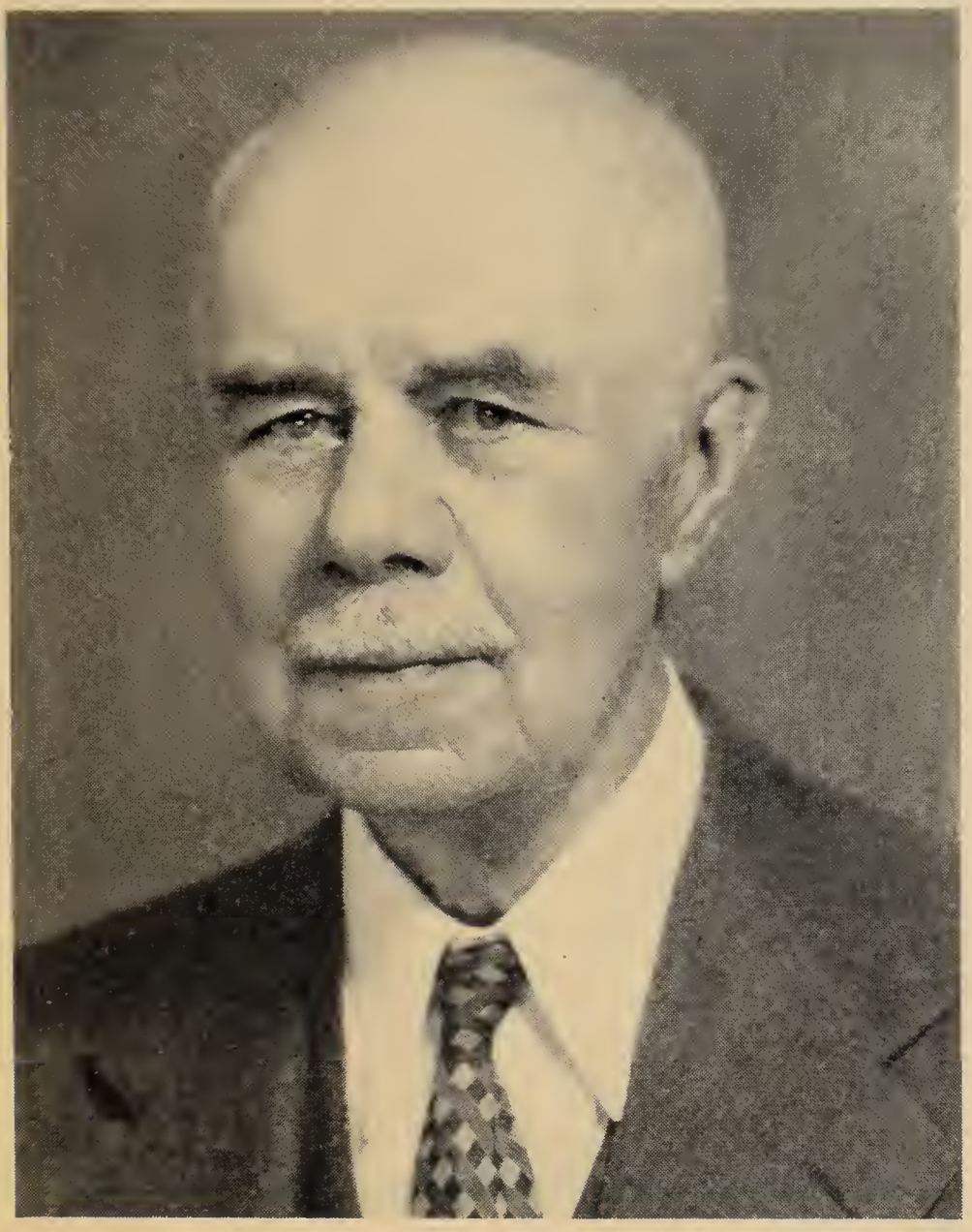
THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

Organized March 6, 1937, for the study and protection of our birds. Membership is open to those interested in this work, and is divided into four classes: Active Members, who pay dues of $1.00 per year; Sustaining Members, dues of $5.00 a year; Contributing Members, dues of $25.00 a year; Life Members, one lump sum of $100.00.

Membership fees and applications for membership should be sent to the Treasurer, Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, 6 Springdale Court, Greensboro, N. C.



HERBERT HUTCHINSON BRIMLEY

March 7, 1861-April 4, 1946

"H. H."

My brother Herbert Hutchinson Brimley was born on March 7, 1861 in the village of Willington about four miles east of Bedford in the county of the same name in the Midlands section of England. He was the third son of Joseph and Harriet Brimley, the others being in order of age, William who died a few years after we came to Raleigh, Fred who died in 1938, myself, and Mark who died in 1877 at the age of twelve. The family had farmed at Willington for at least three generations, but when my father failed at farming on account of high rents and the low price of wheat caused by the competition of American wheat, he emigrated to North Carolina in the late fall of 1880, the majority of the family going with him, including Herbert and myself, arriving in Raleigh on the last day of the year.

Two or three years later we came into the possession of a small book entitled "Taxidermy Without a Teacher," the study and application of the instructions contained therein being the impulse which led Herbert to the mounting of natural history specimens in which he later became so proficient. And it was this ability which led to his association with the State Museum of which he became head in 1895, and his connection with that institution was only terminated by his death.

From his youth up he was always interested in hunting in the American sense (in the English sense the term is applied only to fox hunting with hounds, pursuing game by means of fire-arms being termed "shooting"). In England he was not legally able to shoot game, that is partridges, pheasants and hares in our region, but he could and did shoot snipe, lapwings, golden plover, ducks, and wood pigeons. In North Carolina he finally picked out deer hunting as his favorite sport, though I have a faint idea that he was somewhat disappointed in never having had a chance to kill a lion, tiger, or elephant.

Both of us went to the Bedford County School at Elstow, the old home of John Bunyan, just outside of Bedford. Herbert did well in sports, particularly football and swimming. In his studies he distinguished himself in mathematics but not much in other subjects due I think to a lack of interest, not to a lack of ability. After he left school both he and Fred took clerical jobs at Howard's Iron Works in Bedford, but indoor work did not suit H. H., which is why he emigrated with the family while Fred stayed behind. And we three did not meet again till Fred paid us a visit in October, 1937, fifty-seven years later. Both Fred and he rode bicycles and H. H. won prizes at several local meets. These were the old high

bicycles with a very small hind wheel and a very high front one throwing the center of gravity far forward, so that if the front wheel struck the slightest obstacle it was apt to cause the bike to revolve on its axis throwing the rider head first on the hard road.

He and I collected birds eggs in an amateurish way, blackbird's, pied wagtail, song thrush, redbreast, hedge accentor, green linnet, red linnet, chaffinch, spotted flycatcher, house martin, barn swallow, etc., etc. Our three great finds were a nest and eggs of the Golden-crested Wren in Sheerhatch wood, one of the Long-tailed Tit in the Spinney, and a set of three eggs of the Mute Swan taken on an island in the River Ouse. As a swan was assumed to be a tough customer, the party of three, H. H. and two friends went along well armed for a swan was supposed to be able to break a man's leg with one blow of its wing. However, the expedition came off safely. The swans bluffed a little, but the eggs were secured without difficulty and divided equally among the lucky three. In later years we have often collected all sorts of things in company with one another. He was a good man and a pleasant companion. Even to the end there was a kind of elder brother-younger brother relationship between us. *Requiescat in pace.*

(April 10, 1946) CLEMENT S. BRIMLEY.

Herbert Hutchinson Brimley, 1861-1946

On the last day of the year 1880, in a blizzard, Herbert H. Brimley arrived in Raleigh, along with his parents, two brothers, and two sisters. Their hotel for the night was on the site where Herbert and his brother, Clement S. Brimley, were later to make their notable contribution to the zoological history of eastern North America. Discouraged in England by the low prices for their farm products, the family had been attracted to North Carolina by an immigration agent of North Carolina Board of Agriculture.

The family's attempt at farming on the rocky hills between Raleigh and Cary was not successful, and Herbert fell back on school teaching in a one-room log cabin on the site of the present Meredith College campus. The salary—$30.00 a month for a three months term. The English accent and unruly pupils combined to make this an unpleasant vocation. A small book, "Taxidermy Without a Teacher," furnished a guiding impulse, and with his brother Clement, he soon developed a business of collecting, preparing, and selling zoological specimens. The Carolina field was then new

and the Brimley brothers sent their handiwork to scientists in far places. A reputation was soon established, and in 1884, Herbert was asked by the State Board of Agriculture and Immigration to mount specimens for the State Centennial Exposition. In 1891 and 1892 he was employed by the State World's Fair Commission to collect and prepare specimens of fish and game for the North Carolina exhibit at the Chicago World's Fair of 1893. He installed the exhibit and was in charge during the period of the exposition. Similar responsible work followed for the Charleston Exposition (1901), the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis (1904), the Boston Food Fair (1906), and the Jamestown Exposition (1907). He was appointed Executive Commissioner to the Panama Pacific Exposition which was to have been held in San Francisco in 1915, but this was not held owing to the outbreak of the first world war. He was selected as a member of the International Jury of Awards at both the St. Louis and Jamestown expositions. In his professional work he was known throughout the nation to many scientists.

In 1894, he was given the temporary job of mounting the skeleton of the museum's first whale, a Right Whale fifty feet long, the bones of which had previously been merely spread on the floor. The work required several months, and since the Agriculture Department's budget made no provision for an osteologist or for any other kind of a preparator, he was, according to his own notes, "placed temporarily on the payroll as a fertilizer inspector." On April 15, 1895, he accepted a position as Curator of the Museum, and began an enlargement program to accommodate exhibits coming back from the expositions. For over sixty years he gave his best to build for his adopted state one of the finest museums in the South. He was Director for half a century, and is believed to have served the State longer than any other employee. Before the last world war, more than 200,000 sightseers, a goodly proportion of them school children from various parts of the state, visited the Raleigh museum yearly.

He collaborated with Hugh M. Smith in preparing, in 1907, the volume, "Fishes of North Carolina." With his brother, Clement S. Brimley, and T. Gilbert Pearson, he was a joint-author of the volume, "Birds of North Carolina," in both the 1919 edition and the 1942 revision.

Throughout his career he found time for an active participation in social and civic organizations, as well as in scientific organizations. He was a founder and life member of the North Carolina Academy of Science, the Raleigh Natural History Club, and the Raleigh Bird Club, and was a founder and past president of the North Carolina Bird Club. He was an

honorary member of the Raleigh Rotary Club, of which he was a past president. For many years he was active in Boy Scout work and in many other civic activities. He held active memberships in the American Association of Museums, the Museums' Association of Great Britain, American Ornithologists' Union, American Society of Mammalogists, and American Museum of Natural History. In all of these he had official positions, and made original scientific contributions on many occasions.

After several months of declining health and a serious illness of several days, H. H. died in Raleigh on April 4, 1946. The funeral was held April 6, at Christ Episcopal Church, of which he was a member. A fitting requiem was added to the service at the graveside by the calls of Blue Jays, his special favorite of birds. He is survived by his wife; two sons, Robert Brimley, of Charlotte, and Arthur Brimley, of Asheville; a brother, Clement S. Brimley, assistant state entomologist, at Raleigh; and a granddaughter, Miss Mary Ellen Brimley, of Charlotte.

H. H. was a tremendous lover of life and, for many years, was one of the state's most vivid and vibrant characters. In his passing, the state has lost one of her best citizens, and the North Carolina Bird Club has lost one of its most valuable and best beloved members. We pay tribute to his many fine qualities, his sympathetic kindly temperament, exemplary character, marked ability and wisdom, especially in his outstanding leadership in the study and appreciation of our birds. We hold in loving remembrance our valued association with him, who through many years gave us so generously of his talents. His memory is an inspiration toward the high ideals for which he stood.

"No man has come to true greatness who has not felt in some degree that his life belongs to his race and that what talents God gave him, He gives him for mankind."—Phillips Brooks. A. D. S.

Francis H. Craighill Bird Club Organized at Rocky Mount

Organization of the Francis H. Craighill Bird Club, of Rocky Mount, N. C., was effected March 5th, at which time a constitution was adopted and the following officers were elected: President, J. W. E. Joyner; vice-president, Charles Benbow; secretary, Miss Martha Clark; and treasurer, Miss Lilly Shearin.

Since the organization meeting, two regular meetings and a field trip have been held. At the second meeting, Miss Clara Hearne, president of the North Carolina Bird Club, spoke and presented a program of Kodachrome slide pictures of familiar birds. Another meeting was planned for a general discussion of methods of attracting birds, bird books, etc.

At present there are 28 charter members and one honorary member, Mrs. F. H. Craighill. All members have been urged to become affiliated with the North Carolina Bird Club. MARTHA CLARK, *Secretary*.

Annual Meeting of N. C. B. C Held at Boone

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Bird Club, which was held Saturday and Sunday, May 11th and 12th at Boone, was a splendid meeting in every respect. Approximately eighty registered for the meeting, and well over one hundred attended the annual dinner and business session, held Saturday evening in the cafeteria of Appalachian State Teachers' College.

MRS. O. F. JENSEN

The new officers elected for the coming year include: President, Mrs. O. F. Jensen, Chapel Hill; first vice-president, Mrs. Geo. Potter, Charlotte; second vice-president, Dr. R. C. Busteed, Boone; third vice-president, Robert Wolff, Goldsboro; secretary, Mrs. David Olsen, Chapel Hill. Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, 6 Springdale Court, Greensboro, was reelected treasurer, and Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury, Woman's College U. N. C., was reelected editor of *The Chat*. Miss Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, and Mrs. Cecil M. Appleberry, Wilmington, were elected to membership on the executive committee.

The first general session, held in the auditorium of the Appalachian State Teachers' College, was called to order at 2:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon by the president, Miss Clara Hearne. Committee appointments were announced, and telegraphic greetings were ordered to be sent to Mrs. H. H. Brimley, Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green, and C. S. Brimley, all at Raleigh. Two former members of the United States armed forces, Rus Peterson of New Jersey and Charlotte, N. C., and Howard (Tom) Odum, of Chapel Hill were recognized and Peterson spoke briefly on some bird observations made while he was in the Aleutians and Hawaii, mentioning particularly the Arctic Horned Owl and Alaska Longspurs.

Reports from the local bird clubs of the state were presented. Outstanding among these were the reports of the Statesville Audubon Club, Raleigh Bird Club, Henderson Bird Club, Piedmont Bird Club, Mecklen-

burg Audubon Club, Hickory Bird Club, Boone Bird Club, Lenoir Audubon Club, Tryon Bird Club, Chapel Hill Bird Club, Roanoke Rapids Bird Club, and Asheville Bird Club.

Mrs. J. W. Clinard, of Hickory, and Mrs. Edith Settan, of Greensboro, gave reports on educational activities with their local groups. Mrs. Clinard, principal of the Brookford school, now incorporated with the Hickory school system, described the protection of birds from slaughter by the education of school children. This work was begun twelve years ago, and his included art work, hobbies, annual exhibits, and eventual establishment, seven years ago, of a sanctuary. The Brookford school's reputation for its bird studies in arts and crafts has become widely known. Mrs. Settan told of the several years of educational work in the schools and community which secured the cooperation of school children, teachers, parents, and many civic clubs, which resulted in the final establishment of Greensboro's sanctuary in 1944. During the past year Greensboro's Piedmont Bird Club has engaged in activities to interest citizens in birds and conservation, and has worked with fifteen graded schools in the establishment of a 5-point system, to organize Junior Audubon clubs, to erect and maintain bird feeders, to erect and maintain bird baths or other sources of water, to put up bird houses, and make suitable plantings on school grounds. Groups of bird cards were awarded to all the schools since all met the minimum requirements, and special bird programs will be given to the seven schools that rated superior.

N. C. ACADEMY OF SCIENCE ORNITHOLOGY ESSAY AWARDS

Mrs. Edwin O. Clarkson reported a small response to the prize offer made this year for the first time to the Negro high schools for ornithology essays. The N. C. Bird Club decided to send copies of "Birds of North Carolina" to two contestants, and the prize offer of $20, provided by Mrs. Clarkson, will be renewed next year. For a number of years, with the cooperation of Mrs. Clarkson, who each year gives the $20 first prize, and the State Museum, which offers a copy of "Birds of North Carolina," for second and third prizes, the North Carolina Academy of Science has conducted among the white high schools of the state, an essay contest on birds. This year's awards were: first prize, Bob Holmes, III, Mount Olive high school, "The Bird Population of Wayne County"; second prize, Martha Witherspoon, Hickory high school, "The Value of Bird Protection"; and third prize, Sue Boykin, Rock Ridge high school, Wilson, "The Eastern Cardinal."

Howard T. Odum, Chapel Hill, presented a paper, "The Production of Edge Effect in North Carolina Woodland by Thunderstorm Winds." An abstract of this paper will be presented in an early issue of *The Chat*. Mrs. O. F. Jensen, Chapel Hill, presented a discussion on bird banding which included a description of some of her own interesting work for the past five years along this line. Mrs. Jensen has banded 1,340 birds of 39 species at Chapel Hill, and has had 108 returns. Many of these return again and again to her traps, but the Cardinals apparently resent capture. Only one has returned out of 50 banded. Some of Mrs. Jensen's banding records will be presented in early issue of *The Chat*. Bob Wolff, Goldsboro, gave an informal discussion on "Systematic Bird Study," stressing personal pleasure from the point of view of an individual hobby, as well as the importance of organized, coordinated work along this line in the different localities.

Following the afternoon meeting, most of the group spent a pleasant hour at the crafts shop, the Watauga Handicrafts Center, where punch was served. This center is in charge of Miss Elizabeth Lord, who teaches handcrafts to adults, over 16, who are not in other schools. The work, which includes weaving and woodwork, is intended to train adults to make things at home, though during a part of the year the center works in cooperation with the Appalachian State Teachers' College in training

teachers. The interest of Miss Cora Jeffcoat was largely instrumental in bringing the Watauga Industries to Boone.

DINNER AND BUSINESS MEETING SATURDAY EVENING

At the dinner meeting Saturday evening, Dean J. D. Rankin spoke the invocation; Gordon Winkler, mayor of Boone, and Dr. B. B. Daugherty, president of A. S. T. C., gave their greetings to the N. C. B. C.; Mrs. E. O. Clarkson, of Charlotte, responded for the club. The president, Miss Clara Hearne, recognized Mrs. M. W. Burwell, who read a telegram from Roxie Collie Simpson, former secretary and active worker in the N. C. B. C., who is now in Washington, D. C.

The Club approved the suggestion of the executive committee that those who desired could pay the life membership fee in four $25 annual payments. The possibility of incorporating the N. C. B. C. was discussed, and if approved by the executive committee, will be presented for the Club's approval at the next annual meeting. Miss Bertha Swart, Greensboro, gave a report of the work toward a Nature Center, and a motion was passed to cooperate with the North Carolina State Parks Commission. Miss Grace Anderson, Statesville, gave a history of the sanctuaries on North Carolina, with a list of the municipal sanctuaries and their dates of establishment. Miss Edith Settan, chairman of the membership committee, reported the accession of over 200 new members during the past year. Announcement was made of the organization of five new local clubs since the last annual meeting: Asheville Bird Club, Wilmington Bird Club, Francis H. Craighill Bird Club at Rocky Mount, Elk Park Bird Club, and Lumberton Bird Club. Howard T. Odum, field trip chairman, reported the forthcoming trip to Orton plantation and the Southport region, and asked for suggestions, particularly regarding a fall migration trip to Pea Island. F. B. Meacham, Raleigh, in the absence of education chairman Harry T. Davis, gave a report of the excellent work of the education committee during the past year. This committee furnished material to aid many teachers in the establishment of Junior Audubon clubs. Mr. Meacham also presented Harry Davis' report of the general status of the N. C. Bird Book, the funds for which are handled at the State Museum. Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury reported on the work of *The Chat* during the past two years, giving credit to several members who had aided in the work of *The Chat* in various ways.

Following is a brief resume of the report of the treasurer, Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall. (The auditing committee, Chas. M. Swart and Geo. W. Perrett, had previously examined and checked the records and accounts, and approved the complete report of the treasurer.)

Balance May 6, 1945	$ 500.79
Received from dues and gifts	842.14
Total	$1,342.93
Expenditures	752.79
Balance May 4, 1946	$ 589.14

The nominating committee, composed of Mrs. Bertha K. Swart, chairman; Miss May Puett, Lenoir; and J. W. E. Joyner, Rocky Mount, presented their report which was unanimously adopted, with the election of the officers mentioned earlier in this write-up.

A motion was made and unanimously passed thanking the president, Miss Clara Hearne, and the rest of the officers for their splendid work.

Following the president's report (which is published elsewhere in this issue) and the report of the resolutions committee, which was composed of D. L. Wray, chairman,

J. W. Clinard of Hickory, and Robert Wolff of Goldsboro, the business meeting adjourned.

TRIBUTE TO H. H. BRIMLEY

Miss Hearne presiding at the evening meeting, held in the auditorium of A.S.T.C., asked Mrs. O. F. Jensen to read the beautiful tribute to the late H. H. Brimley which had been written by Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green who could not attend the meeting. Following the reading was a minute's silence in tribute to H. H. Brimley, to whom so many of us owe so much.

The evening lecture, "Colorful Trails," was given by Randolph Ashton, a research and test engineer at the Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, N. J., who has the delightful hobby of taking colored moving pictures. Mr. Ashton presented an hour of fine motion pictures of plants and animals, and—mostly—birds, pictures that included many thrilling color shots of birds, even including tiny warblers, taken at home, in their natural environment. Following the lecture-entertainment, many of the members, both young and older, spent an hour folk dancing at the girls' gymnasium.

FIELD TRIPS

Sunday morning, bright but not too early, many of the group ate breakfast at a downtown cafe in Boone, and then they split into two groups for the serious work of field trips. One group examined several regions in the immediate vicinity of Boone, and the other group, under the direction of Dr. R. C. Busteed, of A. S. T. C., took cars to the Snake Mountain, particularly to see the Ravens there. A total of 75 species were recorded during the forenoon of Sunday, May 12th. In the valleys and lower hills, Cape May Warblers, Blackpolls, Scarlet Tanagers, and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were very numerous (3,300 ft.). Chestnut-sided Warblers and Indigo Buntings were numerous on the open slopes. Of especial interest were the Ravens observed above 4,000 ft. on Snake Mountain. Canada Warblers, Veerys, and Juncos were numerous there also. Other interesting species were Bewicks Wren, Black-billed Cuckoo, and Red-breasted Nuthatch (Overing). A Connecticut Warbler was seen the day before (Odum). Many learned the Least Flycatcher and its song. A specimen was taken for positive identification. (A brown rather than yellowish lower bill eliminates all of the Epidonaxes except Least and Alder. Only the Least has a wing less than 2.60 inches—this specimen had wing 2.44). These birds in the vivid and colorful mountain backgrounds made the field trip and our visit to Boone an unforgettably pleasant memory.

News of the Local Clubs

HICKORY BIRD CLUB: The Mockingbird was the theme of an original paper on birds given by Arthur Moser, at the regular meeting, on Tuesday evening, April 11th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Warlick in Forest Park. Several of the fourteen members present contributed amusing stories of their own experiences listening to the Mockingbirds' many variations. Nesting record cards were distributed, and J. W. Clinard read a note from Dr. A. D. Shaftesbury, editor of *The Chat*, asking the members to be on the lookout for Evening Grosbeaks, reported seen in this state recently, for the first time, at least by anyone who recognized them, for 24 years. In the round-table discussion, Dr. H. D. Althouse, past president, discussed investigation on the use of the new insecticide, DDT, and cautioned the members about using it in their gardens as it is said to be fatal to domestic fowl as well as to song birds.

The May meeting was held on the evening of May 9th, at the home of Miss Minnie Gwaltney, on Eleventh avenue, with the main topic of discussion the annual

meeting of the North Carolina Bird Club, to be held in Boone on May 11th and 12th. An article on bird nest building, in the current issue of *Nature Magazine*, was reviewed, and the round-table discussion brought forth many observations made by various members during the nest building season. Arthur Moser described the method of nest construction by a Robin, and told of the exact time required to build a Robin's nest.

Instead of the regular meeting on June 13th, a field trip will be held. The location, time, and gathering place will be announced later.

J. WESTON CLINARD, *President.*

PIEDMONT BIRD CLUB: "North Carolina Game Birds and Hunters," was the topic on which E. J. Stoker, secretary of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation, spoke at the regular meeting held on Thursday evening, March 21st, at the science building of Woman's College. He also made comments on a color film, "Haunts for the Hunted," furnished by the United States Department of the Interior. Miss Edith Settan, education chairman, reported that 100 houses for Bluebirds, Wrens, and Flickers, have been recently set up in the Greensboro Country Park, and other local park areas, under the direction of Kenneth Wible, head of the Greensboro City Department of Recreation. Hugh Medford designed the houses, and D. O. Mann and his students at Greensboro high school built them. Material for their construction was mostly donated, as scrap lumber, by Oettinger Lumber Company, and other sources. The club decided to cooperate with the American Businessmen's Club in its community nature program.

"Warblers," was the topic for discussion at the regular monthly meeting held on the evening of April 18th, at Woman's College, with five members, Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, Miss Etta Schiffman, Larry Crawford, John Carr, and Raymond Kaighn, leading the discussion. Warbler specimens and colored slides were provided through the courtesy of the State Museum at Raleigh.

The May 25th meeting will take the form of a picnic at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Medford, with Miss Etta Schiffman directing a field trip.

INEZ COLDWELL, *Secretary.*

A Letter From a Young Old Timer

Editor, *The Chat*,
Greensboro, N. C.

I was glad to read, "With Rope and Irons," in last issue of *The Chat*. It took me back to the time when I was roving the fields and forests in that part of Bertie county between Roanoke and Chowan rivers in search of ornithological items of interest. I know all about ropes and climbing irons, and by their aid have been enabled to capture many rare specimens. But I could never get up enough courage to try an eagle's (Bald Head) nest that was on the bank of Roanoke river near its mouth. It was in the top of a cypress about 85 feet from the ground, and appeared to be about the size of two large wagon loads of rubbish. This pair of eagles nested there as long as I was in that section, and I now often wonder if they are still there. Yes, I think it will be fine for you to republish these articles by that grand old man, H. H. Brimley. I feel sure they will be intensely interesting to all bird lovers, especially in North Carolina.

I feel it would be very helpful if the North Carolina Bird Club could influence bird lovers to organize more clubs in the eastern part of the State. Wilmington, Jacksonville, New Bern, Beaufort, Greenville, Williamston, Edenton, Elizabeth City,

Weldon and Goldsboro are all good points. This is made along with Henry Magie's suggestion. Let's get to work and do it. It can be done.

There are not nearly as many birds now as there were when I was actively interested. In the late 80's and early 90's, I have been in the woods in the early mornings when they were literally teeming with them. Just hundreds of all kinds that might be expected during the migrations. Now, in this section, a dozen or two is all that one may expect to run across. So, if bird clubs are not organized or something done to create an interest in the preservation of the wild life of our forests, it seems to me, that many of our rare birds will soon be a thing of the past, as the Great Auk and Passenger Pigeons are now. The Pileated Woodpecker was rather common in Bertie county in the early 90's, but I haven't seen one in this section for the past ten years, though up until that time I saw one occasionally on the Neuse river.

Very sincerely,

DR. J. W. P. SMITHWICK.

La Grange, N. C., March 28, 1946.

Mrs. O. F. Jensen Establishes Banding Records at Chapel Hill

For a little over five years, Mrs. O. F. Jensen has been banding birds at her home at Chapel Hill, N. C. She has several traps just outside a large window overlooking a terrace, and Mr. Jensen has equipped the traps with electric trip devices. This banding station is in deep woods, pine, oak, dogwood, etc., with practically no clearing. From March 15, 1941, until April 4, 1946, Mrs. Jensen has banded 1,340 birds of 29 different species, and has had 108 returns. Following is a list of the birds banded during this period:

	Banded	*Returns*		*Banded*	*Returns*
Blue Jay	11	3	White-throated Sparrow	54	6
Brown Creeper	1	..	Summer Tanager	17	2
Brown Thrasher	7	1	Hermit Thrush	5	1
Cardinal	50	1	Wood Thrush	10	6
Catbird	3	..	Tufted Titmouse	22	7
Chickadee	25	5	Myrtle Warbler	244	14
Purple Finch	613	26	Black-th. Blue Warb'r	1	..
Crested Flycatcher	1	..	Pine Warbler	18	4
Junco	138	10	Yellow Warbler	1	..
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	3	..	Downy Woodpecker	10	3
Mockingbird	1	..	Hairy Woodpecker	4	1
Red-br. Nuthatch	4	..	Red-bellied W'odpecker	9	..
White-br. Nuthatch	15	4	Red-headed W'odpecker	3	..
Chipping Sparrow	49	10	Carolina Wren	20	4
Fox Sparrow	1	..	Total	1,340	108

To date, several of the species banded at Mrs. Jensen's station have the oldest age records of the United States. A Purple Finch, banded on April 6, 1941, returned on January 17, 1942, and November 27, 1945, and was back again on April 2, 1946, nearly five years from the original date of banding. A White-throated Sparrow, banded January 10, 1942, returned January 6, 1944, April 9, 1945, and March 2, 1946. A Tufted Titmouse, banded May 19, 1941, was still in the same locality on March 30, 1946, while a Pine Warbler banded March 30, 1941, was still around on April 3, 1946. All of these are, for the present at least the oldest age records for their respective species.

An Experience in Amateur Bird Photography

David L. Wray, Raleigh, N. C.

For some years I have been interested in obtaining bird nesting data, and back in 1937 when the North Carolina Bird Club was organized I decided to try my hand at amateur bird photography with especial reference to nests and eggs. During the next few years many nests of various birds were found and a few pictures taken of those near the ground. However, this

Nest and eggs of Wood Thrush, Raleigh, N. C., May, 1940. Located 20 ft. from the ground in a White Oak tree.

Female Wood Thrush on nest, Raleigh, N. C., May, 1940. Note characteristic "flag" decorating side of nest.

(Photographs by David L. Wray)

story deals with an experience in 1940 while taking a picture of the nest, eggs, and the mother Wood Thrush on the nest situated fully 20 feet up in a White Oak tree in a wood which now has become my backyard. The first problem after finding the nest was to get up to the nest so a picture could be made. A ladder was made out of long slender poles cut in the woods and short pieces of boards nailed to these served as steps. Not a very safe ladder at the best. Putting this up to the tree, it just did reach the limb near the nest. Leaving my camera equipment on the ground, I went up the ladder to see the nest. The mother bird flew off the nest. There were only two eggs, so I decided to wait and watch the nest each day until

the full complement of eggs was present. Within two more days the other two eggs were laid, and on the fifth day I carried up the camera fastened to an old time wooden tripod and fastened the legs of the tripod to suitable limbs above the nest. As she had done on previous days, the mother bird flew off the nest as I ascended the ladder, but she seemed more disturbed as I stayed up there longer and fastened all this strange equipment above her nest. As the day was fair I focused the camera and made various "shots" of the eggs. Then fixing the camera I attached a long cord to the trigger and dropping the ball of cord, I descended and took cord to a large tree some forty feet or more away to see what would happen. The mother bird came back and flew back and forth over the nest, quite perturbed and cautious about the camera hanging above the nest, but after a few minutes she finally alighted on her nest and cautiously settled down on the eggs. Then after waiting a few minutes, I pulled the cord and heard the camera click. Now my heart was full of great anticipation as to what sort of picture this would be. The mother bird was disturbed some more when the equipment was removed, but she soon got used to the ladder which was left in place until she had hatched her brood, and as far as I could ascertain this experience did not have any ill effects on the young as they stayed happily in their nest until their time came to start their life's journey.

I have just come across these photographs which have been in my desk drawer since that happy day in May 1940, and I hope these remarks may be of interest to those who have tried or are interested in trying this very interesting part of "birding."

(December 4, 1945.)

The Bookshelf

Talk About Wildlife: For Hunters, Fishermen, and Nature Lovers. By Ross O. Stevens. Bynum Printing Co., Raleigh, N. C. 1944: 6¼ x 9¼; 229 p. frontispiece, 97 fig. Agent: N. C. State College Wildlife Club, State College Station, Raleigh. Regular edition, $3.50; students edition, $2.25.

Ross Stevens, Professor of Zoology in charge of Wildlife Conservation and Management, at the N. C. State College of Agriculture and Engineering, is an experienced field biologist, formerly with the Division of Game and Inland Fisheries, of the N. C. Dept. of Conservation and Development, and his book which discusses many of the important wildlife conservation problems of today, is not limited to game and fish. Much attention is given to the function of sound state administrative organizations as a prerequisite to adequate wildlife protection. The hunter and fisherman will

enjoy reading this book and the average person interested in non-political wildlife conservation will get valuable information from the book.

Woodcock. By John Alden Knight. Alfred A. Knopf, New York 1944: 5½ x 8¾; x, 161, II p.; 6 col. plates from paintings by Dr. Edgar Burke, 17 photographs. $4.00.

Written specifically for sportsmen by a veteran Woodcock hunter, four of its eleven chapters deal with hunting methods, suitable cover, shells, clothing, and dogs. It does contain an interesting resume of the development, color, migration, and ecological relationships of the species. There is no bibliography and no acknowledgments of published sources of information. It scarcely comes up to the claim of being "the first full and up-to-date account of the American Woodcock," though it is more popularly written than Olan Sewall Pettingill, Jr.'s valuable technical monograph, *The American Woodcock*, printed in 1936 for the Boston Society of Natural History (Memoirs of the Boston Soc. of Nat. Hist., vol. ix, no. 2; 4to, 223 p., 20 pl.)

Game Birds of America. Sketched by Lynn Bogue Hunt. Text by Ray P. Holland. Field and Stream, N. Y. 1944: 13 x 16 in., 12 colored plates, 24 text figures. Agent: Frank J. Lowe, 80 West 40th St., New York 18, N. Y. $5.00.

If you like bird pictures, you will like these, and you may wish to frame some of them. Thirty-eight species of game birds are pictured: geese, ducks, doves, quail, grouse, and the turkey and woodcock. The only undesirable feature is the smallness of the pictures, due to placing several species on most of the plates.

Modern Bird Study. By Ludlow Griscom. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 38, Mass. 1945; 5¼x7¾; xii, 190 p.; 15 illustrations from photographs, 10 maps in text. $2.50.

Ludlow Griscom spent ten years in ornithological exploration, and has been Research Curator of Zoology for the Museum of Comparative Zoology in Cambridge. At present he is chairman of the Board of the National Audubon Society, and his broad experience is drawn upon in this interesting book which traces the developmen of bird study from the days of field study with a shot gun to the present intensive study of live birds, and outlines the important facts regarding bird distribution in the western hemisphere.

FROM AN OFFICE WINDOW: Edwin O. Clarkson, of the Mecklenburg Audubon Club, reports the following birds seen from his downtown Charlotte office window: Cedar Waxwing, Brown Thrasher, Towhee, Crested Flycatcher, Cardinal, Tufted Titmouse, Chickadee, White-throated Sparrow, Starling, Wood Thrush, English Sparrow, Downy Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Pine Warbler, Redstart, Dove, Carolina Wren, and Golden-crowned Kinglet; and within a block of his office he has observed a Screech Owl sunning himself daily in an old Flicker hole, an Orchard Oriole sing merrily away, and a Yellow Warbler also making himself heard and seen not 25 feet from the office building. It might be interesting for some of the other members of the North Carolina Bird Club to keep a list of birds seen from their office windows.

President's Report

The report of activities by the president is not a report of president's activities, but a summary of the work of the executive board. It is needless to remind you that a war was on in 1944. The months ahead were discouraging but "having put our hands to the plow we could not turn back." Along with many other members of the North Carolina Bird Club it was necessary to "beat our plowshares into swords," so to speak, and go to war. There was no desire to acquire territory but a desire to protect and preserve and defend the birds of North Carolina.

Many of the active members were in service and we felt the responsibility of holding the line for those who had done so much to further the work of the Club. Travel restrictions and the polio epidemic prevented a fall meeting or any executive meetings until early in 1945. By correspondence, the establishment of sanctuaries and the forming of new clubs were encouraged.

A drive for new members was made. An increase in membership was the only source of revenue. This was necessary to increase the number of pages in *The Chat*, which the Board wanted to do. There has been some increase, but due to a shortage of paper there has been no appreciable increase. However, the quality of the contents has been on a high plane.

Believing that all organizations need a reserve fund for expanding their programs, this was encouraged, but it has been dropped temporarily because of lack of interest.

A major interest has been a program of bird study in the public schools. This was inaugurated by an article in North Carolina Education, the magazine of the North Carolina Education Association. Later, cards were mailed to one or more teachers in every county in the State offering help to those who were interested. Around fifty requests came from teachers and children, and some material was sent to them by the president. This response indicated an interest in birds, so an education committee was appointed with Dr. C. H. Bostian as chairman. Miss Ethel Perkins, secretary of the North Carolina Education Association, offered her co-operation and a news brief appeared in the September magazine offering help to all teachers who would request it. Dr. Bostian first sent a letter and a bulletin containing source material to 150 teachers. Later he found it necessary to resign from the chairmanship and he turned his plans over to Mr. Harry Davis of the State Museum, who has sent out material at four different periods to about 200 teachers. Audubon Junior Clubs were encouraged and in 1944-45 school term there were 9,000 members in North Carolina. For 1945-46 there are 6,908. Local Bird Clubs and science teachers were asked to report to the president the names of high school students who had indicated an interest in birds.

Dr. Arnold H. Perry of the State Department of Education offered his co-operation and asked that a member of the Club prepare a unit on bird study to be distributed in the schools. This will be done later.

The interest that is evident, and the need for directed nature study convinced the president that there should be a nature center somewhere in the central part of the State where young people might, under capable leadership, observe, investigate, and appreciate the natural resources of the State. The executive board approved the idea at the January meeting 1946, and authorized the appointment of an investigating committee which would report at the State meeting. Mr. Thomas S. Morse, Superintendent of State Parks, had read the article on a Nature Center in the January *Chat*, and expressed his interest in the project. The committee met with Mr. Morse at Morrow Mountain on April 6th and discussed a plan for a nature program to be carried on jointly by the North Carolina Bird Club and State Parks management. Dr. C. S. Brimley made the first contribution to the program.

Other items acted upon by the executive board and delegate meeting in Charlotte are as follows: 1. Renewed affiliation with the national Audubon Society.

2. Prize of $20 to the Negro high school student for the best essay on bird conservation. 3. A contribution of $5.00 to the North Carolina Roadside Development and Beautification Council for a War Memorial of Roadside Beautification. 4. The purchase of one addressograph to be used in mailing *The Chat*. 5. Life Memberships of $100 to be paid in four installments if so desired. 6. Nest Record cards printed and distributed. 7. Plans for Field Trips resumed. 8. Plans for Field Observation prepared and distributed by Howard T. Odum.

The president would like to recommend that the educational program and the nature program be continued.

Whatever contribution the president has made, it has been through the inspiration and sound advice of the preceding president, the late H. H. Brimley, the loyal support of the executive board, and the faithfulness of every member. For this fine spirit of co-operation the president is indeed grateful. CLARA HEARNE.

(May 11, 1946.)

New Bird Club Organized at Lumberton

Early in May 1946, at Lumberton, the Lumberton Bird Club was organized and James Stephens, Jr., was elected president. Our best wishes go to this group as to the other new groups. The State bird club is anxious to aid you in every possible way. Have your club representatives send regular notes of your activities to *The Chat*.

Field Notes and News

EVENING GROSBEAKS AT HENDERSON, N. C.: On March 20th, Miss Garnette Myers and Mrs. A. J. Davis saw an Evening Grosbeak. On April 3rd, Jeannette S. Bachman saw a flock of 13 males and females; and on April 9th, she saw one Evening Grosbeak. C. S. BRIMLEY.

EVENING GROSBEAK SEEN AT GREENSBORO, N. C.: Miss Mildred Gould, a teacher at the Woman's College, Greensboro, reports seeing an unusual bird April 3rd, on the campus at the college. From her description, the bird was undoubtedly a male Evening Grosbeak. A. D. S.

EVENING GROSBEAKS SEEN AGAIN AT HIGH POINT, N. C.: In the March issue of *The Chat*, p. 34, I reported observing a pair of Evening Grosbeaks here on March 4th. On March 19th, I saw four Evening Grosbeaks near my home here in High Point. JAMES H. MATTOCKS.

(Some people seem to have all the luck. A phone call from Lawyer Mattocks brought me to High Point within less than two hours, but no Evening Grosbeaks could we find.—A. D. S.)

HENDERSON, N. C.: I had a female Orchard Oriole feeding with me from February 11th to February 28th. I had been away for three months and noted this strange visitor the first day I was back, so have no means of knowing just how long she was here. JEANNETTE S. BACHMAN.

ORCHARD ORIOLE IN NORTH CAROLINA IN WINTER: On December 19, 1945, a dead bird was brought to Bob Holmes, III, at Mount Olive, N. C., which he did not recognize, so he made it into a skin and sent it to me for determination. I recognized it as an oriole in female or immature male plumage, but was not sure of the species. It sent it on to Mrs. Roxie Collie Simpson, at the National Museum, Washington, D. C., and she submitted it to Dr. Wetmore who pronounced it an *Icterus spurius* (Orchard Oriole), but added he had never seen one in exactly that plumage. Holmes kindly presented the skin to the State Museum. C. S. BRIMLEY.

FLOCKS OF CARDINALS: Near Sugar Grove, about ten miles west of Boone, N. C., on December 27, 1945, I observed 56 Cardinals, by count. Snow covered the ground, and they were apparently seeking food. About two weeks later, I observed about 36 Cardinals at one time. MRS. VIRGINIA DARE STROTHER.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.: Since some of our neighbors have been converted from cat lovers to bird lovers, our birds have increased. Last winter when the snow was on the ground, we had 11 Cardinals feeding at one time. This morning, May 2nd, I saw the following birds in my yard: Scarlet Tanager, Flicker, Wood Thrush, House Wren, Cardinal, Robin, and Chipping Sparrow. BOB WHITE.

HORNED LARK AT HENDERSON, N. C.: On March 20th, a student came in a hurry to tell me there was a small bird with little horns out on the campus, and I went and lo there it was—the two little black horns sticking up like sore thumbs, one on each side of its head. CLAUDIA HUNTER.

LAPLAND LONGSPURS AT STATESVILLE, N. C.: J. C. Crawford reports seeing six Lapland Longspurs on his farm one day this winter after a snow. The birds were digging under the snow for seeds. GRACE ANDERSON.

RALEIGH, N. C.: On March 30, I found a Cardinal's nest with three eggs, which seems to be an early date, since "Birds of North Carolina" reports April 4 (1939). On March 31, I observed an Ovenbird in the Raleigh city limits.
JACK DERMID.

TICK ON DEAD GOLDFINCH: At Hickory, N. C., about March 20th, I found a dead Goldfinch in my neighbor's yard, and upon examining to see if I could ascertain the cause of its death, I discovered a tick clinging to the back of the bird's head. I didn't know that birds had this enemy to add to their long list. Unfortunately, I failed to preserve the tick. J. WESTON CLINARD.

ELKIN, N. C.: On February 25th, two Red-breasted Nuthatches ate suet and cracked peanuts at my feeding station. A White-breasted and a Red-breasted were in the feeding station at the same time. On March 7 and 8, at 6:45 a.m., a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was observed eating suet at the feeding station. Bewick's Wren was first observed on March 17th. It was moving slowly in and out of a pile of hardwood branches. It jerked its tail frequently and was rather unafraid, remaining within 25 feet of me for a couple of minutes. The black feathers in the tail were as conspicuous as the white. This observation was made within fifty feet of a dwelling in a hardwood forest. ROBERT H. WITHERINGTON.

A CLOSE-UP OF PAINTED BUNTINGS: If any of the members of the North Carolina Bird Club go to Clearwater, Florida, they should try to see the Painted Buntings that Mrs. Lyon, on Druid Road, has had in her garden for eleven years. They come to her window to feed, and she has had as many as 10 pairs, though only

three pairs came this year. It offers the closest view of these birds most of us are likely to get. MIRIAM W. BEECHER.
(Biltmore, N. C., March 6.)

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.: F. H. Zeigler reported the first Purple Martin, two scouts, arrived on the morning of March 8, which is the date of their arrival last year. Those that use my boxes arrived some time during the night of March 21-22. Canada Geese began their northern migration as early as I ever remember. Several flocks passed over the city during the night of February 28th, and Swan headed north were over on the night of March 11th. The night was clear, a quarter moon showing, and its light was reflecting this huge white V, silhouetted against the dark sky; they were sounding their plaintive calls to one another, echoes sounding in the hush of the night. It was most impressive. JEROME B. FLORA.

WILMINGTON, N. C.: On January 1st, a Western Palm Warbler appeared at my feeding tray and has been seen almost daily since (March 15). Several have been seen in this region by Gregor Rohwer, and specimens have been taken to verify identification. On February 7th, Mrs. Scales and I saw two Baltimore Orioles. (On January 30, 1945, my notes mention my excitement over a bird with gorgeous golden orange.) Heard Orchard Oriole on March 4th and 9th. Several have reported seeing Purple Finches, Mrs. Mebane reporting 25-30, observed on March 13, feeding in the yard of Miss Wagner. On March 7th, I heard a Maryland Yellowthroat and a Yellow-throated Warbler. Is there anything unusual about having Chipping Sparrows throughout the year? We seem to have them all the time. Saw a Brown Thrasher carrying nesting material on March 8th. Saw Blue Jays carrying food to nest on March 14th.
EDNA LANIER APPLEBERRY.

MONROE, N. C.: One June 15, 1939, I saw a Brown Pelican, at Lake Monroe, n Union county. I observed it for three hours while I was fishing from a boat. The bird landed within 6 feet of me and pecked at the artificial plug I was using.
W. E. JOYNER, Rocky Mount, N. C.

PHILADELPHIA VIREO AT SOUTHERN PINES: On very reliable authority, a Philadelphia Vireo was seen at Southern Pines on May 5, 1946. The North Carolina Bird Book calls it a rare visitor. LOUISE M. HAYNES.

STILL MORE ABOUT MOUNTAIN BIRDS: On page 36 of the March, 1946, issue of *The Chat*, Mr. Arthur Stupka questions certain observations made in western North Carolina by Mr. Ernest Mitchell, Jr. I am not sufficiently well posted on the area to comment, except to point out in the case of the Purple Finch that our earliest South Carolina record (bird taken) is October 30, 1944, at Clemson College, Oconee County. Arthur Howell gives October 13 as the earliest Florida record. Nonetheless, the abnormal often pops up in bird work.

I am more concerned with Mr. Stupka's belief that one should report subspecific names in sight records merely "In view of the date when the . . . species" is reported. To be of real worth a sight record must be absolute. Obviously it loses this quality when based on guesswork or even on strong probability. Certainly the use of a subspecific name should be restricted to cases of positive identity.
E. B. CHAMBERLAIN, Curator, Vertebrate Zoology,
The Charleston Museum, Charleston, S. C.

HENDERSON, N. C.: I had a wonderful trip on the morning of April 29th, from 8:00 until 10:30 o'clock. I evidently hit on a migration of Warblers, for never

have I seen and heard as many Parula Warblers, and it is most unusual to find 6 Hooded Warblers in a small patch of woods. There was a group of Myrtle Warblers also in the vicinity. I had already noted "waves" of them on April 11, 16, and 24. On April 11th, there was also a migration of Hermit Thrushes, and the 16th, one of Wood Thrushes. Here is the list of the 48 species observed: Turkey Vulture; Black Vulture; Mourning Dove; Chimney Swift; Hummingbird; Flicker; Red-bellied Woodpecker; Red-headed Woodpecker; Downy Woodpecker; Crested Flycatcher; Blue Jay; Carolina Chickadee; Tufted Titmouse; House Wren; Carolina Wren; Mockingbird; Catbird; Brown Thrasher; Robin; Wood Thrush; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Starling; White-eyed, Yellow-throated, and Red-eyed Vireos; Black and White Warbler, 4; Parula Warbler, 6; Myrtle Warbler; Black-throated Blue Warbler, 1; Yellow-throated Warbler, 1; Black-poll Warbler, 2; Pine Warbler, 6; Prairie Warbler, 2; Ovenbird, 3; Maryland Yellow-throat, 4; Hooded Warbler, 12; Redstart, 5; English Sparrow; Meadowlark; Purple Grackle; Scarlet Tanager, 1; Summer Tanager, m & f; Cardinal; Goldfinch; Towhee; Chipping Sparrow; Field Sparrow; White-throated Sparrow. JEANNETTE S. BACHMAN.

BEAUFORT, N. C.: From April 5th to 7th, at Beaufort, N. C., we recorded 58 species of birds. These observations were not exhaustive, else the list would have been larger. We stayed on Piver's Island, and visited, in addition, Town Marsh, Shark Shoal, the Lennoxville Heron Rookery, North River, and Fort Macon. There are several evidences of shorebird migration in the list, as the Yellowlegs, Knots, and Terns. The herons in the rookery were building nests. Following is the list: Common Loon, 6; Red-throated Loon, 1; Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Double-crested Cormorant, 40; Great Blue Heron, 4; Snowy Egret, 25; Louisiana Heron, 20; Little Blue Heron, 20; Green Heron, 5; Black-crowned Night Heron, 3; Buffle-head, 1; Red-breasted Merganser, 75; Turkey Vulture, 1; Black Vulture, 15; Bald Eagle, 7; Marsh Hawk, 1; Osprey, 3; Clapper Rail, 1; Black-bellied Plover, 5; Willet, 2; Greater Yellowlegs, 2; Knot, 60; Red-backed Sandpiper, 1; Semipalmated Sandpiper, 10; Sanderling, 15; Herring Gull, 1,000 plus; Ring-billed Gull, 8; Laughing Gull, 33; Common Tern, 3; Least Tern, 12; Royal Tern, 35; Mourning Dove, 6 (1 nest); Chimney Swift, 7; Purple Martin, 7; Fish Crow, 24; Carolina Chicakdee, 1; Mockingbird, 25; Catbird, 2; Brown Thrasher, 8; Bluebird, 4; Cedar Waxwing, 14; Shrike, 4; Starling, 40; White-eyed Vireo, 2; Prairie Warbler, 12; Yellow-throat, 2; English Sparrow, 30; Meadowlark, 16; Red-wing, 70; Boat-tailed Grackle, 50; Cardinal, 4; Indigo Bunting, 1 f.; Towhee, 15; Savanah Sparrow, 60; Seaside Sparrow, 30; Chipping Sparrow, 4; Field Sparrow, 2; Song Sparrow, 1. Observers, T. L. QUAY, A. S. PEARSE, JEAN MOORE, HULDA MEGALHAES, L. B. KALTER.

With the Editor

FREMONT A BIRD SANCTUARY: Miss Grace Anderson, of Statesville, N. C., reports that the Garden Club of Fremont has been instrumental in having that town made a Sanctuary.

BULLETIN OF THE AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: We have received numbers 1 and 2, the March and April issues, of "The Wood Thrush," a neatly mimeographed bulletin which the District of Columbia bird group has just started publishing.

ASHEVILLE NAVAL HOSPITAL CLOSED: On April 10th, nearly three years after it was commissioned, the United States Naval Special Hospital at Asheville closed

its doors. The hospital was devoted to rehabilitation of naval patients. The location was selected and the hospital was organized and directed by Captain W. A. Angwin (MC) USN, and certainly to him is due a great amount of credit for the fact that the great majority of the more than 6,600 patients who passed through its portals have returned to their duties in the navy. One of Captain Angwin's many interests is bird study, and those who have read past issues of *The Chat* will recall that bird study was one of the recreational activities used at the hospital. Captain and Mrs. Angwin are now spending a vacation on the California coast. Their many friends in this section hope that when Captain Angwin doffs his uniform, he and Mrs. Angwin will make their home in "the good old North State."

PETERSON *FIELD GUIDE* TO BE REVISED: A note from Roger Tory Peterson, who has just recently been released from military duty, states that the first task which he has set for himself is to completely reorganize and revise his "Field Guide to the Birds." He will improve voice descriptions and ranges, and will include additional field aids and more information about immature birds. All drawings will be done over; there will be more of them and considerably more color. One innovation will be two color plates of the confusing fall Warblers. Peterson states that the guide "has in a sense been written by all the field students of America," and he will welcome any suggestions which members of the North Carolina Bird Club may wish to submit for the revision. Jot down your notes on 3x5 cards or slips of paper, with the name of the species in the upper left hand corner. During the next three or four months communications should be sent to: Roger Tory Peterson, 1206 Mt. Vernon Blvd., Alexandria, Va.

CONCERNING CROWS: The following are excerpts from three newspaper articles clipped during the past few months: "Crow Roost Blasted; 80,000 Pests Eliminated in a Hurry, Mar. 16. Ker-whongg! The earth shook, the skies crackled and rattled as echoes chased each other . . . And the air, a few hundred yards away in the black of night became a squally, cawy, yowking bedlam . . . From the direction of the tremendous, roaring blast came a downpour of shot that rattled, and sticks and twigs and refuse, and the acrid smell of dynamite fumes . . . Flashlights switched on . . . From out of the shadows came a dozen or so fellows . . . hurrying down the rows of catalpa trees to where the night was alive with the clamor of thousands of crows not yet exterminated . . . Down the rows . . . was a solid black mat, an underfooting of dead crows that reached and reached and reached . . . Cripples by the thousands sat on limbs, cawed wildly, fluttered, hopped, and ran. The Kansas Fish and Game Commission had arranged the 'shoot.' . . . Each bomb was a tin cylinder packed with a stick of dynamite and enough shot to make the bomb weigh about six pounds . . . These bombs, trailing the wires which carry the current to them, were hung up in the trees, at places where crows had been roosting in greatest numbers . . ." April 19: "A friend of mine reports that down in the southwest corner of the county, within a radius of two or three miles of the crow roost which was bombed some weeks ago, there are still scores of crippled crows. They should be killed . . . This fellow suggests that a bunch of fellows organize a crow clubbing expedition, gather a few hefty sticks and go down into that portion of the county and kill those cripples . . ." From the daily newspaper column by Neal O'Hara, "Pull up a Chair": "Although crows cawing in the morning and waking us up have been our abomination for years, it must be said that they have their uses. They were successfully exterminated on Martha's Vineyard island, but it was disastrous for the hay fields. Immediately the grass was cut off by white grubs and the hay crop destroyed. As soon as the bounty on dead crows was withdrawn the pastures recovered."

The Dreamer

(H. H. Brimley was an honorary member of the Zoology Field Club, a students' organization at the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, and for nearly twenty years, both we and H. H. have looked forward to the pleasant sessions of our annual spring get-together, when Mrs. Brimley and H. H. would come to Greensboro for H. H.'s annual talk, and, occasionally the special privliege, for us, of a dinner with the Z. F. C. officers. During the summer too, a couple of times, Mrs. B., and H. H., together with H. H.'s boon fishing and hunting companion, T. Gilbert Pearson, all visited the students working at our Woman's College Marine Laboratory, at Beaufort, N. C., and accompanied us to the famous Lenoxville heron rookery nearby and took the crowd on a day's trip on the ocean. This little poem was written by "Uncle Gilbert"—T. Gilbert Pearson—after one of these Beaufort trips, and was sent to the girls who were then students at our Carolina Marine Laboratory.—A. D.S.)

With many a task unfinished
And letters scantily read,
A dreamer sat in his office
With bowed and troubled head.

For in through the open window
And down from the autumn sky
Had come with surpassing sweetness,
A wild and discordant cry.

Of all the throng in the city
There was no one heeded the cry,
But the man with the task unfinished
And the longing, unsatisfied eye.

From the casement he had gazed far upward
Where the gander, resplendent and bold,
Was leading his flock to the southward
From their home by the frozen pole.

And his heart cried out at the bondage
That linked him to table and chair;
For the wanderlust was upon him
And he longed for the autumn air.

"Tis not for the joy of killing
That I follow the wild fowl's flight,
But the spell of the open marshes
That hie to my eager sight.

"Tis not for the shout of my rifle
When it calls to the heart of the deer,
But the thrill of the joy unbounded
When I feel that the buck is near

"I long to lie in the moonlight,
Cypress boughs for my bed,
And the cadence of the night-wind
In the pine trees over my head."

And lo, with his task unfinished
And letters scantily read,
The dreamer is leaving his office
With quick and stealthy tread.

With rifle and boots and camp kit,
He will follow the gander far
Away to the lakes of Craven—
Away to the Hatteras bar.

—*By* UNCLE GILBERT TO H. H. BRIMLEY.

Local Clubs and Their Officers

Arden, Rosscraggon Wood, Inc.: P—Major V. M. Shell, Arden; V-P—Mrs. H. B. Swope, Skyland; S-T—H. B. Swope, Skyland

Asheville Bird Club: P—Capt. W. A. Angwin, U. S. N.; V-P—R. H. Rembert; S—Mrs. M. F. Meredith, 10 Castle St.; T—Mrs. Francis E. Field.

Blowing Rock, Blowing Rock Audubon Club: P—Miss Lena Reeves; V-P—Mrs. Joe Winkler

Boone Bird Club: P—Dr. R. C. Busteed; V-P—Mrs. W. M. Burwell; S-T—Miss Cora Jeffcoat.

Chapel Hill Bird Club: P—Dr. Maurice Whittinghill; V-P—Mrs. C. H. Pegg; S—Mrs. O. F. Jensen; T—Mrs. R. B. Sharpe.

Charlotte, Mecklenburg Audubon Club: P—B. Rhett Chamberlain, 1320 Biltmore Drive; V. P.—Sarah Nooe; S—Miss Margaret Coble, 1135 Buchanan St., T—Josephine A. Osborne, Publicity Chairman—Mrs. G. C. Potter, 2111 Malvern Rd., Charlotte 4.

Durham, Duke-Durham Bird Club: P—Miss Bertha B. Hopkins, 506 Buchanan Road; S-T—Mrs. M. W. Johnson.

Greensboro, Piedmont Bird Club: P—Archie D. Shaftesbury; V-P—Mrs. George Perrett and Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall; Rec. S—Miss Inez Coldwell; Cor. S—Miss Etta Schiffman, 319 W. Washington St.; T—Miss Ethel McNairy; Ex. Comm.—Mrs. Edith Settan, Mrs. Chas. Swart.

Guilford College, T. Gilbert Pearson Bird Club: P—Elizabeth Hare; V-P—J. G. Gilbert; S-T—Margery Pickett.

Henderson Bird Club: P—Miss Elizabeth Fox; V-P—Mrs. A. W. Bachman; S-T—Miss Garnette Myers.

Hickory Bird Club: P—J. Weston Clinard; V-P—Mrs. George E. Bisanar; S-T—Mrs. George Fuller.

Lenoir Audubon Club: P—Miss Margaret Harper; V-P—T. L. Greer; S—Miss May Puett, 512 West Harper St.

Lumberton Bird Club: P—James Stephens, Jr.; V-P—Mrs. Henry McKinnon; S—Mrs. D. L. Whiting; T—Miss Lillian Whiting.

Raleigh Bird Club: P—Harry T. Davis; V-P—Ernest Mitchell, Jr.; S—F. B. Meacham, State Museum; Ex. Comm.—J. H. Slaughter, G. M. Garren.

Roanoke Rapids Bird Club: P—Mrs. A. O. Pendleton, R. 1, Bolling Rd.; V-P—Mrs. C. E. Matthews; S—Miss Mary Hix, 536 Hamilton St.; T—Mrs. R. G. Knight

Southern Pines Bird Club: P—Mary Keller Wintyen; V-P & S—Miss Louise Haynes; T. & Rec. Sec.—Miss Norma Shiring

Statesville Audubon Club: P—Miss Nancy B. Eliason; V-P—Miss Grace Anderson; S—Mrs. Calhoun Ramsey; T—Mrs. Earl Davis.

Tryon Bird Club: P—G. H. Holmes; S-T—Katherine D. Hamilton

Washington, Bughouse Laboratory: P—Sally Bogart; S-T—Elizabeth Shelton; Director, Joe Biggs

Wilmington Bird Club: P—Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, 5 Lake Forest Parkway; Honorary President—Theodore G. Empie; V-P—Miss Helen Lovering; S—Mrs. Gregor Rohwer, 260 Lake Forest Parkway; T—Warwick R. Baker; Sec. Jr. Work—Miss Anne Blackwell Payne.

Winston-Salem Bird Club: P—Henry Magie; S-T—Wm. S. Rothrock, 2434 Stockton St.; Directors—Charles H. Babcock, Thurmond Chatham, Jr., Richard J. Reynolds, II.

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

VOL. X SEPTEMBER, 1946 No. 4

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Greensboro, N. C.

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

DR. ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY, *Editor*
Woman's College of University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C.

DR. C. S. BRIMLEY, *Associate Editor*
N. C. Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C.

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THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

Organized March 6, 1937, for the study and protection of our birds. Membership is open to those interested in this work, and is divided into four classes: Active Members, who pay dues of $1.00 per year; Sustaining Members, dues of $5.00 a year; Contributing Members, dues of $25.00 a year; Life Members, one lump sum of $100.00, or four annual payments of $25.00.

MEMBERSHIP FEES AND APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP should be sent to the Treasurer, Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, 6 Springdale Court, Greensboro, N. C.

CLEMENT SAMUEL BRIMLEY, LL.D.
December 18, 1863-July 23, 1946

Clement Samuel Brimley, 1863-1946

Clement Samuel Brimley, Associate Entomologist of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, and first President of the North Caroline Bird Club, died at his home in Raleigh, North Carolina, on July 23rd, 1946. He had worked the previous day, and on the day of his death he had risen and dressed, when he was suddenly stricken.

Dr. Brimley was born December 18, 1963, at Great Linford, Buckingham County, England, a son of Joseph and Harriet Brimley. He later lived in the village of Willington, a few miles east of Bedford, in the county of the same name, in the Midlands section of England, where he resided until 1880, when, with his father and mother, and two brothers and two sisters, he migrated to North Carolina, a chance contact having been made with an immigration agent of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. The family reached Raleigh on the last day of December 1880, and their first night was spent in a hotel on the site where "C. S." and his brother, "H. H." Brimley, later achieved scientific distinction.

The two brothers soon began collecting, preparing, and selling natural history specimens. A small book, "Taxidermy Without a Teacher," was their guiding impulse. In 1884 H. H. started preparation of exhibits for the North Carolina Board of Agriculture and Immigration, a work which eventually grew into the development of a state museum, while C. S. continued in the zoological supply business.

Dr. Brimley's formal education was limited to what he received at the county school at Elstow, England, the birthplace of John Bunyan, yet by his own diligent study he became a scientist of great rank. When he joined the Entomology Division of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture in 1919, he had already published a considerable number of scientific papers, and he eventually became a recognized authority, particularly on the animal groups of amphibia, reptiles, birds, and insects. The University of North Carolina gave recognition to his achievements when, in June 1938, at their 143rd commencement, they awarded him a degree of Doctor of Laws. Following is a part of the citation made by President Frank P. Graham, of the University of North Carolina, when the honorary degree was awarded: "Clement Samuel Brimley . . . herpetologist, ornithologist, entomologist, educated in his native English schools, he brought from North England to North Carolina a love of nature and a scientific curiosity which has given him an unmatched knowledge of the animal life of our state; a pioneer in the discovery, naming

and classification of the birds, reptiles and insects of our state and section. His vital share in the development of the State Museum of Natural History and his contributions to the science of zoology in the southeast have won the grateful appreciation of the scientists of this university and a secure place on the honor roll of American men of science."

For sixty years he kept painstaking records of the animals of North Carolina, and made extensive collections of skins and preserved specimens. His chief duties within the division of entomology have been the preparation and care of the museum's insect collection, which now numbers over a half million specimens of over 7,000 species. As a result of this work, he published, in 1938, a volume, "The Insects of North Carolina," which lists more than 10,000 species. Among his other major publications are the two editions of "Birds of North Carolina," published in 1919 and 1942, with joint authorship of his brother, H. H. Brimley, and T. Gilbert Pearson. A booklet, "Poisonous Snakes of Eastern United States," which he and Harry T. Davis, Director of the North Carolina Museum, jointly authored, has been distributed to the number of 25,000 copies. His papers on "Amphibians and Reptiles of North Carolina," and "Mammals of North Carolina," which first appeared some years ago in the *Journal of the Elisha Mitchell Society*, have more recently been extensively revised and rewritten and published by the Carolina Biological Supply Company, in their widely distributed *Carolina Tips*. For many years, the notes of his valuable first-hand observations on birds have appeared in the nation's leading ornithological journals. As one of the organizers of the North Carolina Bird Club, he was a main stay of this group, and as Associate Editor, contributed many valuable observations to the pages of its publication, *The Chat*, since its first issue in March 1937.

He was a member of various scientific organizations, including the American Ornithologists' Union, and the Wilson Club. He was a founder, past president, and an honorary life member of the North Carolina Academy of Science, and was a founder and past president of the North Carolina Bird Club, the Raleigh Bird Club, and the Raleigh Natural History Club.

He took an active interest in church and community affairs. He was a member and deacon of the First Presbyterian Church of Raleigh, and was secretary-treasurer of the Moment Bible Class for over twenty years. Admired and loved by all who knew and worked with him, he was an inspiration to all who came in contact with him. Many people young and old have enjoyed his informative discussions and shared his trips afield.

Surviving are his wife, the former Annie Roberts, of Johnson County; two sons, First Lieutenant Ralph Brimley, United States Army, Washington, D. C., and Edwin Brimley, or Orlando, Fla.; and three grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted on the afternoon of July 24th by Rev. M. O. Sommers, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, and burial was in Oakwood, Raleigh. A. D. S.

The President's Message

The year 1946 marks a challenging 10th year of the North Carolina Bird Club. Its past has been guided by such illustrious leaders as T. Gilbert Pearson and our own beloved H. H. Brimley and C. S. Brimley. To them we are indebted for lighting our torch not with a flickering light but with a strong clear beacon. With their passing, it remains for us to carry on and to prove that we can still maintain and enlarge upon the scientific study and investigations they left.

This is the first year marking the cessation of war but we have still to prove that we can work together. Just as music touches the hearts of all without the need of language, so nature in its constancy and beauty can assuage and inspire those needing rehabilitation and orientation. We feel a particular gratitude for our returning veterans. Their youth, enthusiasm, and search for scientific knowledge will provide new leadership.

It is an honor to be your president, but I well realize how very necessary is the enthusiastic support of every one of you. We need active workers, enthusiastic workers, vitally interested in different phases of growth.

Our medium of communication and inspiration is *The Chat*. Its editor, Dr. A. D. Shaftesbury, deserves our whole-hearted support, for *The Chat* is serving both the needs of the layman and the more scientifically minded. Material is at hand for the enlargement of this publication which is planned if we obtain additional members to give us greater financial support. It is hoped, too, that there will be supplementary scientific papers which will give us recognition throughout the country. It depends on us whether we realize our ambition.

There has been much discussion about the advantage of each club taking charge of state club fees. In fact, several local clubs are including in their dues the additional dollar so that each local member is automatically a member of the North Carolina Bird Club, receiving *The Chat*, which enlarges his interest and knowledge. It is urged that each member solicit and gain at least one new member. An individual chairman could be ap-

pointed in each local club to take these memberships, whereupon they could be sent in a group to Mrs. Margaret Wall, 6 Springdale Court, Greensboro, N. C. This would greatly facilitate the work of the state membership chairman, Mrs. Charles Swart. Each member's effort along this line will help to bring that enlarged *Chat*.

Enthusiastic accounts keep coming in regarding the fine field trips conducted by our Field Trip Chairman, Howard T. Odum. Watch your *Chat* for future plans. They will be good.

Sanctuary establishment continues to be a big interest with many of our members. If you know of an area which could be so declared, or if your town needs help in becoming a bird sanctuary, communicate with our Sanctuary Chairman, D. L. Wray, Division of Entomology, North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C.

Our Nature Center idea has crystallized a bit. The head of the State Parks, Thomas W. Morse, has sought our cooperation in laying out trails, taking the bird counts of given areas, and conducting field trips in the various state parks. At present, he has no funds for such work. This seems like a real opportunity to serve, and the clubs nearest these parks should let Miss Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, N. C., know of their willingness to cooperate. During the bird census period it would be valuable and swell lists considerably to include an adjoining park area. Miss Hearne was the originator of our Nature Center idea, and she will be our Nature Center Chairman.

Names of other committee chairmen will be announced later.

It is to be hoped our Educational program will expand and continue to create interest among our North Carolina teachers. Through this medium we educate our future bird club members and enrich their background. Our contribution to youth should be one of combating urban stimulation with the wealth which can never be taken away—the art of listening and seeing intelligently. Then we shall have a rich America. We can all assist in this program with youth.

It is my sincere wish and hope that we shall realize our ambitions this year. Success depends on cooperation. If you have suggestions, send them in. Let's make everyone interested in birds a state club member. Watch your *Chat* for future plans!

Mrs. Ove F. Jensen, Chapel Hill, N. C.

• Readers of The Chat are urged to send in suggestions which will make The Chat and the North Carolina Bird Club more useful in the study and protection of birds and other wildlife.

News of the Local Clubs

LENOIR AUDUBON CLUB: New officers were elected at the meeting of the Lenoir Audubon Club, which was held Tuesday evening, May 7th, at the home of Miss Margaret Harper. The annual meeting of the North Carolina Bird Club, to be held in Boone, May 11th and 12th, was discussed, and members were urged to attend. Due to reports reaching the club that birds were being shot in Lenoir, R. T. Greer, the newly elected president, offered a reward for the arrest and conviction of guilty parties. May 9th was designated as the day for a local bird census.

The meetings scheduled for July and August will not be held, but it was planned to hold the regular June meeting with Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Parks, in their open air living room, Shady Rest. MAY PUETT, *Secretary*.

FRANCIS H. CRAIGHILL BIRD CLUB: The Francis H. Craighill Bird Club is planning to bring Alexander H. Sprunt, Jr., to Rocky Mount early in November to present two lectures with his colored moving pictures of bird life. Mrs. Fairy Bandy, Mrs. I. S. Longest, and Rev. Gray Temple are in charge of the arrangements, and it is expected that an afternoon lecture will be arranged for the schools, besides an evening lecture.

A bird house building contest, tentatively scheduled for January or March, is planned for sponsorship by the Recreation Department of the city of Rocky Mount, with prizes to be awarded to the builders of winning houses.

Members are urged to make notations on unusual or out of season birds in this section, and to send their discoveries to *The Chat*, care W.C.U.N.C., for printing as a part of the permanent records of the North Carolina Bird Club.

PIEDMONT BIRD CLUB: For the weekly field trip on May 5th, field trip chairman Mrs. Floyd Hugh Craft planned a visit to Justamere Farm, the home of Dr. and Mrs. Wesley Taylor, north of Greensboro. Twenty-six members and guests made this early Sunday morning trip, and noted the lack of housing problems with the 42 pairs of Purple Martins which had taken over as many nesting gourds erected by Dr. Taylor. White-throated Sparrows were still present, and a flock of 50 Bobolinks was observed. After 64 species of birds had been identified, the group was ready for the splendid breakfast which the Taylors served. Out-of-town guests included Mrs. C. E. Lovin, of Lenoir, and Geo. D. Parr, of Los Angeles, Calif.

The spring season of the Piedmont Bird Club was closed Saturday morning, May 25th, with a field trip to White Oak pond and Buffalo lake, under the leadership of Miss Etta Schiffman, followed by an outdoor breakfast at the Hugh Medford home on Cornwallis Drive. About twenty members were present, and after the breakfast, Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury, president, conducted a board session for annual reports.

HICKORY BIRD CLUB: A field trip, led by J. Weston Clinard, president, took the place of the regular June meeting of the Hickory Bird Club. On the afternoon of June 13th, the group motored to the Abel Robinson farm, about five miles from Hickory, off the Lincolnton road, where they met Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Woodside, who conducted them about the premises. Nests of Bluegray Gnatcatcher, Cardinal, Summer Tanager, and Carolina Wren were observed, some of the nests having young birds in them. The Carolina Wrens had built their nest in an upright earthen jar on top of a porch column. After the tour about the place, Mr. Robinson, who is Mrs. Woodside's Father, and is 86 years of age, told of seeing great flocks of the now extinct Passenger Pigeons come to the farm to eat acorns.

In the attractive garden at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Fuller, on Seventeenth street, was held, on July 11th, the monthly meeting of the Hickory Bird Club. As the group gathered around the refreshment laden lawn table, a pair of Bluebirds could be seen feeding their young in a bird house made by the hostess, several Ruby-

throated Hummingbirds were playing among the mimosa blossoms, a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was identified in a tree top, and a Song Sparrow flitted in a nearby bird bath. The highlight of the evening was the demonstration by a pet Song Sparrow which Mrs. Fuller had found with a broken wing and was now nursing back to health. The pet had the freedom of the garden, but came at Mrs. Fuller's call, perched upon her finger, and took crumbs placed between her lips.

J. W. CLINARD, *President.*

RALEIGH BIRD CLUB: The Club held its annual picnic meeting at Pullen Park on June 6, 1946, at 6:30 p.m., each member bringing a well-filled basket to help satisfy the hunger of the numerous crowd, which reached around sixty in attendance. Among those present were Dr. C. H. Bostian and family, Professor E. W. Winkler and family, Ernest Mitchell and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wilbur Bunn, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. MacMillan, Dr. C. S. Brimley, J. H. Slaughter and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Skaale, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Koonce, Dr. D. L. Wray, Miss Mary Knight, Mrs. Herbert Carroll, Frank B. Meacham, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Deaton, Mrs. Jas. Hunter, and Tom Matthews. After everyone had eaten to their heart's content and were filled with chicken and peace, Mrs. Skaale introduced Mr. and Mrs. R. L. McMillan, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wilbur Bunn, and Dr. C. S. Brimley as the more distinguished of those present, and Mr. Brimley introduced Mrs. Skaale as the presiding genius of the supper. Mr. Winkler showed kodachrome pictures of many of our every day birds, these being however preceded by some bird songs on a phonograph. Afterwards the club members and their friends indulged in a short social period, swapping experiences to some extent but mostly indulging in mere friendly chat. The club adjourned about 9 p.m. to meet again after the summer recess in September. All had a most enjoyable time. F. B. MEACHAM, Secretary.

Audubon Screen Tours Secured for Charlotte

The Mecklenburg Audubon Club, underwritten morally and financially by Mr. and Mrs. Edwin O. Clarkson, is bringing to Charlotte this winter a series of five illustrated talks by nationally known naturalists, under the Screen Tours plan recently developed by the National Audubon Society. The series will open at Charlotte Central High School, at 8 o'clock on the evening of December 3rd, with the appearance of John H. Storer, an authority on wildlife problems. The second speaker, Olin S. Pettingill, photographer of the Carnegie Museum expedition to Hudson Bay, will be presented on January 9, 1947; Bert Harwell will present his "Outdoor Symphony" on February 5th; Laura Reynolds will present her program, "Fun With Birds," on March 13th; and the series will end on April 2nd, with "Our Heritage in the Rockies," by ex-Army Air Corps photographer, Karl Maslowski. Both Charlotte and the Mecklenburg Audubon Club are to be heartily congratulated on this fine series of programs. Arrangements have been made by the Mecklenburg Audubon Club to handle admissions through a membership fee of $2 for adults and $1 for children, these prices to include the entire series of five lectures. Out-of-town memberships may be secured by addressing the Mecklenburg Audubon Club, 1320 Biltmore Drive, Charlotte, N. C.

RAFFLES A FEMALE: According to press reports, an autopsy at the Bronx, New York, zoo, after the death of Raffles, on August 3rd., at the age of 6 years, revealed the fact that the famous talking and whistling mynah bird of radio, stage, and screen, which entertained many soldiers during the war, and which whistled at the pretty girls and called, "Hello sweetheart," at the prettier ones, was not a male.

N. C. B. C. Enjoys Field Trip to Wilmington

Grace Anderson, Statesville

The gracious hospitality of eastern North Carolina and the wealth of bird life of the lower Cape Fear river region were enjoyed by a large number of members of the North Carolina Bird Club who were entertained at Wilmington on May 17, 18, and 19 by Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, Sr., president of the Wilmington Bird Club, and other members of the Wilmington Bird Club, who carried out a carefully planned program filled with interest and pleasure. The meeting began Friday evening May 17th, at the Wilmington Y.W.C.A., with Mrs. Appleberry presiding. Nearly eighty members and guests heard interesting talks by Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury, on the highly successful Boone meeting, and by Gregor Rohwer, of Wilmington, who spoke on "Birds about Wilmington," illustrating his talk with a fine collection of bird skins. Mrs. Appleberry outlined for the week end the various trips which had been planned in cooperation with N.C.B.C. Field Trip chairman Howard T. Odum, and, after a pleasant social hour, the evening meeting adjourned.

At seven o'clock Saturday morning, the sunlight had gallantly spread a cloak down the tree lined road that leads to Orton, the best known plantation in North Carolina. Orton Plantation is a paradise for waterfowl and "outlandish" plants, foreign to the inlander. In noble dignity the Mansion looks down the long green path to the marsh where the waterfowl "find a sumer home, and rest." Herons, egrets, and sandpipers search the water, and the Redwing rides the wild rice canes with automatic shout. The most prevalent warbler was the Parula, lover of the gray moss that mists the liveoaks. Shaking a head high twig produced a Parula out of its nest in a tangle of Spanish moss and discovered the glossy, speckled eggs. The Painted Bunting knew he was especially sought. In full view, over a little wooded path, he obligingly gave many encores of his version of the Indigo Bird's song. On a lake, a mile going, behind the mansion grounds, Ospreys fed their young on their tree stump nests. High overhead an Osprey carried a large fish, streamlined fashion. An Izaak Walton gleam flashed in Tom Odum's eyes. "What kind of fish?"

After a real fish dinner at Southport, waterbirds were observed, and since the chartered boat was too small to take all the eighty or so at one time, the party was divided into two boat loads, each of which made the trip across the Southport harbor, passing along Battery island to observe the heron rookery, and then landed on Baldhead or Smith island, at the mouth of the Cape Fear river, across from Fort Caswell. A stiff wind plowed the waves and beat on the unconcern of gulls and terns and Black Skimmers. Three Brown Pelicans flew past the boat. At Baldhead, among other birds, were the Hudsonian Curlew, Willets, Caspian Terns, and the conspicuous Oystercatchers. The first boatload that returned from Baldhead had the thrill of seeing a majestic Man-o'-War Bird, which soared for an hour or more over the harbor, and was for a time directly over the boat. (Which I hope, more than made up for the unceremonious dunking which four of this group received while being ferried by skiff from Baldhead to the larger boat. Interest was added to the return trip for the second group, who had to bail when the boat sprung a leak after raking shallow bottom, and the boat was finally beached at Southport—Ed.) The eventful day closed with a delightful complimentary dinner in Wilmington, and a discussion of the bird "catch."

On Sunday morning, Mr. and Mrs. Appleberry were proficient guides through Wilmington parks. There was yet one bird which the inlander longed to see in summer home. Mrs. Appleberry had his address. There, where cypress trees stand knee deep in the clear water of Greenfield lake, and where water lilies gleam through the shadowy tree-aisles, the simple song of the Prothonotary Warbler made a note of enchantment. At last he gave up his game of hide-and-seek and dropped nearby to splash a gold brilliance on the dark water. Seen through the trees, out where the

sun radianced the water and flowers, a family of Wood Ducks rowed themselves in a straight line, looking much like a boat load of figure heads. And a Pied-billed Grebe skirted a small, scented lily-island on some leisurely business of his own.

Goodbyes were lingeringly spoken. And again farewell was waved to the genial hosts, who had given the North Carolina Bird Club a memorable visit. More than eighty persons, sixty of them from various upstate and out of state localities, made the various excursions, and a total of 102 species of birds were identified during the Saturday and Sunday trips.

Raleigh Officially Declared a Bird Sanctuary

At the annual flower festival of the Raleigh Garden Club on May 8th, 1946, the city of Raleigh was officially declared a bird sanctuary. This announcement brought much satisfaction to members of the Raleigh Garden Club and to the members of the Raleigh Bird Club and to all interested citizens, the combined activities of these two organizations being largely responsible for the approval, by the city commissioners, of the ordinance and regulations covering the better control and protection of bird life in the community.

While there had been some ground work done, in past years, by individuals, especially by Charlotte Hilton Green, the Brimley brothers, H. H. and C. S., Harry Towles Davis, the Boy Scouts and others, no concerted effort was undertaken until the past winter when Mrs. Wilbur Bunn, president of the Raleigh Garden Club, and Harry Davis, president of the Raleigh Bird Club, appointed committees to work together for this cause. The sincere and enthusiastic work done by these committee members with the very helpful assistance of many members of both clubs and the wholehearted support of the city authorities brought a happy success.

In the campaign to create interest and bird consciousness in the public mind poster and bird house contests were held in the city schools, in which approximately three hundred posters and more than one hundred bird houses were prepared by the students. Many of these posters were of a high order, showing intelligent interest and originality and many of the bird houses were exceptional in construction and practical design. Sixty-five dollars was distributed in cash prizes and the contest proved most satisfactory.

It is expected that plans will soon be completed looking to placing in our parks and public grounds additional feeding stations, bird baths and watering facilities, planting of more shrubbery for better protection and nesting grounds, placing of signs and such other measures as will make of Raleigh truly a bird sanctuary.

Mrs. R. L. Deaton, *Chairman.*

Field Notes and News

EVENING GROSBEAK AT PITTSBORO, N. C.: The Evening Grosbeaks were seen at Pittsboro on Easter, April 21st. They were first I had ever seen.

Clara Hearne.

LAGRANGE, N. C. August 16, 1946—The other day while I was sitting on my back porch I noted the following birds eating at the feeder I had put up for them: 1 Purple Grackle, 2 Cardinals, 2 Brown Thrashers, 3 Catbirds, 8 or 10 English Sparrows, 1 Starling, and off to one side were 5 or 6 Goldfinches swinging from the tops of the Brown-Eyed Susans. The Purple Grackle was the shyest, the others didn't appear to notice me sitting about 15 feet from where they were. While I was

sitting there a Carolina Wren bounced up, sang a few notes and was gone. The Thrashers and Catbirds were nesting in shrubs near the house. Sorry to read of the death of Dr. C. S. Brimley. We have lost another good man.

DR. J. W. P. SMITHWICK.

NORTHERN RAVEN AT WINSTON-SALEM: On August 31st I identified a Northern Raven near Winston. The wing flopping flight was observed, and the bird was observed perching, with the narrow, pointed wing feathers clearly showing.

WILLIAM CURTIS LEE, ROUTE 8.

PAINTED BUNTING: On July 28th, I saw and heard Painted Bunting for the last time at Beaufort, N. C. Saw none on July 29th, or afterward, though they had been heard and seen every day before then. That is approximately the same date on which they left Beaufort last year. A. D. S.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO AT RED SPRINGS: As little seems to be known of the summer status of this bird in North Carolina east of Raleigh, it may be worth noting that one was much in evidence on the Campus of Flora McDonald College, Red Springs, N. C., on May 26th, 1946. Not only was the bird singing, but the more characteristic alarm note was heard. The late date would indicate breeding.

J. J. MURRAY, Lexington, Va.

CRESTED FLYCATCHERS NEST IN WREN KEG: I am glad to be looking at North Carolina birds again after a gaze at the many that I saw along the New Guinea coast. In Winston-Salem, in an old Dodson 4-compartment wren keg with a portion of the roof off, I have a Crested Flycatcher feeding her young through the hole in the roof. The box is in a red maple near my porch, about 18 feet from the ground. I have not seen any of these birds nesting here before.

(July 5, 1946.) THURMOND CHATHAM

REGARDING DEAD BIRDS ON ALBEMARLE SOUND BRIDGE: A report last year by Lynn Nesbit, in his column "Tar Heel Capital," in the *Greenboro* (N. C.) *Record* (Nov. 5, 1945), states: "The birds have let Sandy Graham, chairman of the highway commission, and some of his engineers down." Graham tried out the device of stringing electric lights along the bridge, on the theory that the birds flew low and were killed by striking the bridge rails and automobiles. For several years dead birds, apparently chiefly Purple Martins, have littered the bridge, particularly at the south end, during the late summer, and have presented a problem in keeping the bridge cleaned. The birds did not appear in their usual numbers last year and it was not necessary to turn on the lights. *The Chat* would like to have notes of pertinent observations of travelers who have had occasion to use the bridge across Albemarle Sound this season.

BEAUFORT, N. C.—The Oceanography Class from the University of North Carolina, under Dr. R. E. Coker, went to Beaufort on May 10-12, 1946. Incidental to other activities, we observed 26 species of birds. There were indications of the coming shorebird migration, most of which were seen on the beach at Cape Lookout Light. Birds observed: Common Loon, 1; Double-crested Cormorant, 12; Louisiana Heron, 4; Green Heron, 3; Red-breasted Merganser, 4; Osprey, 1; Piping Plover, 12; Semipalmated Plover, 16; Wilson's Plover, 7; Black-bellied Plover, 7; Ruddy Turnstone, 21; Hudsonian Curlew, 6; Willet, 4; Red-backed Sandpiper, 5; Sanderling, 12; Herring Gull, 30; Laughing Gull, 200; Common Tern, 90; Least Tern, 40; Royal Tern, 30; Caspian Tern, 10; Black Skimmer, 60; Chimney Swift, 20; Belted Kingfisher, 1; Eastern Kingbird, 4; Crested Flycatcher, 2; Barn Swallow, 12; Fish Crow, 20; Mockingbird, 4; Brown Thrasher, 2; Starling, 12; English Sparrow,

12; Boat-tailed Grackle, 20; Seaside Sparrow, 4. Observers: T. L. Quay, R. E. Coker, H. F. Prytherch, Josiah Bailey, Jr., Major Pullen, Marjorie Pullen, Nonna Jost, Henry Berryhill.

MAN-O-WAR BIRD AT MOREHEAD CITY, N. C.: This afternoon I spotted an unusual silhouette over the waterfront here at Morehead City, N. C. With the feeling of a "find" that bird enthusiasts seem to know, I bounded down a couple of blocks to find that it was a Man-o-war Bird, or Frigate Bird, soaring and dipping gracefully over the waterfront docks. It put on a show for us for well over an hour. Before long everyone on the beach was admiring its aerial maneuvers, and digging up old tales of previous encounters with the bird.

(Sketched From Snapshot by Dick Borden.)

Several of the admirers had seen a bird like this occasionally soaring high above their fishing boats out around "the Cape," but none had seen one so close and so clearly. It was evidently a female or immature, for it lacked the orange throat-patch of the male, and the upper belly, breast, and neck was white, buffing into the black-brown of the body, tail, and wings. With 8x binoculars, the hooked bill seemed to be a pale bluish, and the legs about the same.

The bird remained quite low, most of the time gliding with motionless wings at about fifty feet or less. It plummeted several times to within a few feet of the water as it tried to frighten the laughing Gulls about the docks, and as it swooped upward spread its forked swallow-like tail, presenting a memorable picture. At this stage of one of its dives, the bird passed within an easy ten feet of me as I stood gawking from the end of a pier. I later learned that these antics (of the bird, that is) were to frighten the Gulls, causing them to disgorge their recent meals which the Frigate Bird would have quickly devoured before it reached the water. So far as I was able to observe, it had little success this afternoon, and after giving us an experience to talk about, it headed out into the sound toward Fort Macon with a few flaps of its slender wings and that motionless soaring that seems to be the Frigate Bird.

(May 20, 1946.) R. W. (Dick) Borden.

MAN-O'-WAR BIRD AT SOUTHPORT, N. C.: On May 19th, when about 80 members of the North Carolina Bird Club were making a field trip to the Southport region, I was with a boat load of about half the group, which was lucky enough to get fine views of a Man-o-war Bird. Returning from a trip across the harbor, we were attracting Laughing Gulls to our boat by throwing crackers overboard, when we noticed the Man-o-war Bird join the group of gulls hovering directly above our boat. The bird, which was apparently a male, followed gulls and boat for a mile or so until we docked, and then was seen for an hour sailing out over the harbor on motionless wings. Archie D. Shaftesbury.

(In his column, "Covering the Waterfront," Aycock Brown, in the Greensboro, N. C., *Daily News*, May 27, 1946, writes: "Rarely seen on the coast is the Man-o-war or Frigate Bird. . . . A few days ago one of the unusual birds was sighted hovering over the Sanitary fish market and restaurant in Morehead City. Efforts were made to kill it for a museum specimen, but the bullets did not find their mark."—A. D. S.)

SPRING COUNT, LENOIR, N. C., May 9, 1946. Time, 5 A.M. to noon; weather perfect. In woods, gardens, and trees around house. Mourning Dove; Swift;

Hummingbird; Flicker; Downy Woodpecker; Wood Pewee; Purple Martin; Carolina Chickadee; Tufted Titmouse; House, and Carolina Wrens; Mockingbird; Catbird; Thrasher; Robin; Wood Thrush; Bluebird; Starling; Yellow-throated Vireo, Black and White, Yellow and Pine Warblers; Ovenbird; Maryland Yellowthroat; Chat; English Sparrow; Meadowlark; Purple Grackle; Summer Tanager; Cardinal; Goldfinch; Towhee; Tree, Chipping, Field, and Song Sparrows. Species observed 36. Observers: Mrs. C. S. Warren, Mrs. Fred May.

SPRING CENSUS AT RALEIGH, MAY 4, 1946.: 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. Cold, cloudy day with drizzling rain in morning. Territory covered same as for Christmas census. Species observed: Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, Greater (?) Scaup Duck, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Osprey, Bob-white, Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpiper, Dove, Chuck-wills-widow, Whippoorwill, Swift, Hummingbird, Kingfisher, Flicker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Wood Pewee, Roughwinged and Barn Swallows, Blue Jay, Crow, Tufted Tit-Mouse, Carolina Chickadee, White-breasted and Brown-headed Nuthatches, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Bluebird, Bluegray Gnatcatcher, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black and White, Yellow, Myrtle, Black-throated Blue, Yellowthroated, Blackpoll, Pine and Prairie Warblers, Ovenbird, Louisiana Water Thrush, Maryland Yellowthroat, Chat, Hooded Warbler, Redstart, English Sparrow, Bobolink, Redwing, Meadowlark, Orchard Oriole, Purple Grackle, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo, Goldfinch, Towhee, Savannah, Field, Chipping and White-throated Sparrows. Total: 81 species. Observers: D. L. Wray, F. B. Meacham, Jo Ann Meacham, Virginia Pickell, E. W. Winkler, Ernest Mitchell, Norman McCulloch.

GREENSBORO, N. C., SPRING BIRD COUNT NETS 110 SPECIES: The Piedmont Bird Club's 1946 spring count, made on April 27th, covered approximately the same area as the recent spring counts and the last several Christmas counts. Twenty-four observers, in 8 groups, spent approximately 45 hours, and identified the following 110 species of birds: Pied-billed Grebe; Great Blue, and Green Heron; Black Duck; Baldpate, 9; Blue-winged Teal, 8M, 3F; Wood Duck; Lesser Scaup; Ruddy Duck, 2; Red-breasted Merganser; Turkey, and Black Vulture; Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, Red-tailed, Broad-winged, and Marsh Hawks; Osprey; Bob-white; Coot; Killdeer; Wilson's Snipe; Spotted, and Solitary Sandpipers; Greater Yellow-legs; Mourning Dove; Yellow-billed Cuckoo; Chuck-will's-widow; Whip-poor-will; Chimney Swift; Ruby-throated Humming Bird; Belted Kingfisher; Flicker; Red-bellied, and Red-headed Woodpeckers; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; Hairy, and Downy Woodpeckers; Kingbird; Crested Flycatcher; Phoebe; Horned Lark; Rough-winged, and Barn Swallows; Purple Martin, Blue Jay; Crow; Carolina Chickadee; Tufted Titmouse; White-breasted, Brown-headed, and Red-breasted Nuthatches; House Wren; Carolina Wren; Mockingbird; Catbird; Brown Thrasher; Robin; Wood, and Hermit Thrushes; Veery; Bluebird; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 28; Shrike; Starling; White-eyed, Yellow-throated, Blue-headed, and Red-eyed Vireos; Warblers—Black and White, Golden Winged, Parula, Yellow, Magnolia, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Myrtle, Yellow-throated, Pine, Prairie, Ovenbird, Louisiana Water Thrush; Maryland Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded W., and Redstart; English Sparrow; Meadowlark; Redwing; Orchard Oriole; Purple Grackle; Scarlet, and Summer Tanagers; Cardinal; Rose-breasted, and Blue Grosbeaks; Indigo Bunting, 2; Goldfinch; Towhee; Savannah, Grasshopper, and Bachman's Sparrows; Junco, 10; Chipping, Field, White-throated (333), Swamp, and Song Sparrows. Total, 110 species. Following the day's field work, most of the observers gathered at the Jefferson Roof restaurant, for dinner, and to discuss and compile the results.

On April 26, Mrs. Hugh Craft and William Craft saw a Worm-eating Warbler. Observers: John Carr, Miss Inez Coldwell, Mrs. Floyd Hugh Craft, Larry Crawford, Dr. Charlotte Dawley, Mrs. R. D. Douglas, Miss Harriett Mehaffie, R. P. Kaighin, Miss Sarah Leslie, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Medford, Sr., Miss Carlita Nesslinger, Oscar Paris, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Perrett, Miss Etta Schiffman, Mrs. Edith Settan, Mrs. R. E. Settan, Archie D. Shaftesbury (compiler), Miss Margaret Stewart, Geo. A. Smith, Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, William Craft, and Hugh Medford, Jr.

SPRING CENSUS, MOUNT OLIVE, N. C. April 28, 1946. Dawn to dusk, area including Jones and Williams Mill Ponds, Wooten and Grandon Farms, and Seven Springs; gum swamp 30%, open fields 10%, mixed woodland, 45%; planted fields 15%; clear and mild all day. Birds observed: Green Heron, 9; Least Bittern, 1; Wood Duck, 2; Turkey Vulture, 1; Black Vulture, 4; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 3; Marsh Hawk, 1; Osprey, 3; Bob-white, 12; Virginia rail, 1 (rare); Killdeer, 2; Spotted Sandpiper, 10; Solitary Sandpiper, 6; Greater Yellowlegs, 3; Lesser Yellowlegs, 12; Dove, 32; Screech Owl, 2; Great Horned Owl, 4; Barred Owl, 2; Chuck-wills-widow, 1; Nighthawk, 2; Swift, 235 est.; Hummingbird, 1; Kingfisher, 1; Flicker, 4; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 7; Redheaded Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 5; Red-cockaded Woodpecker, 2; Kingbird, 24; Crested Flycatcher, 14; Acadian Flycatcher, 8; Wood Pewee, 9; Tree Swallow, 6; Barn Swallow, 50; Purple Martin, 3; Blue Jay, 11; Crow, 9; Chickadee, 15; Tufted Tit-mouse, 4; Mockingbird, 20; White-breasted Nuthatch, 5; Brownheaded Nuthatch, 4; Carolina Wren, 11; Catbird, 8; Brown thrasher, 5; Robin, 26; Wood Thrush, 10; Veery, 1; Bluebird, 40; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 19; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 1, very late; Shrike, 11; Starling, 37; White-eyed Vireo, 5; Yellow-throated Vireo, 4; Red-eyed Vireo, 26; Black and White Warbler, 3; Prothonotary Warbler, 32; Parula Warbler, 17; Yellow Warbler, 3; Myrtle Warbler, 75 est.; Yellow-throated Warbler, 9; Pine Warbler, 6; Prairie Warbler, 10; Louisiana Water Thrush, 1; Maryland Yellow-throat, 11; Chat, 2; Hooded Warbler, 12; Redstart, 2; English Sparrow, 300 est.; Meadowlark, 14; Redwing, 82; Orchard Oriole, 8; Purple Grackle, 1; Summer Tanager, 6; Cardinal, 24; Blue Grosbeak, 3; Goldfinch, 51; Towhee, 30; Savannah Sparrow, 1; Grasshopper Sparrow, 1; Chipping Sparrow, 21; Field Sparrow, 12; White-throated Sparrow, 19, Swamp Sparrow, 1. Total species 87, individuals about 1335. For some reason, Cedar Waxwings could not be found, though they were seen frequently after the census day. Several herons were missed because some boys with guns arrived at the marsh before we did. A dead Indigo Bunting was found on the 28th but was not counted. Observers: Frank Stallings, Emmet Pope, Jr., Jimmie Bizzell, and Bob Holmes III.

SPRING COUNT, CHAPEL HILL, N. C.—(Same area as in Christmas and spring counts of last five years; oak-hickory climax 35%, lowland thickets and farmland 20%, pine forest 10%, marsh and lake shores, 35%); party hours 38, car miles 69, foot-miles, 21—May 6, 1946; overcast stratocumulus becoming high scattered clouds, temp. 55-72; dawn to dusk, 5 parties in A.M., 3 parties in P.M. Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Double-crested Cormorant, 2; Green Heron, 6; Scaup, 4; Turkey Vulture, 24; Black Vulture, 20; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 4; Broad-winged Hawk, 2; Osprey, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Bob-white, 27; Killdeer, 4; Solitary Sandpiper, 15; Spotted Sandpiper, 42; Mourning Dove, 103; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 2; Barred Owl, 1; Chuck Wills Widow, 1; Whip Poor Will, 1; Nighthawk, 1; Chimney Swift, 93; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 9; Flicker, 12; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 12; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 14; Eastern Kingbird, 22; Crested Flycatcher, 30; Phoebe, 9; Acadian Flycatcher, 16; Wood Pewee, 31; Tree Swallow, 8; Bank

Swallow 6; Rough-winged Swallow, 3; Barn Swallow, 33; Cliff Swallow, 2; Purple Martin, 6; Blue Jay, 29; Crow, 32; Carolina Chickadee, 59; Tufted Titmouse, 48; White-breasted Nuthatch, 14; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 13; House Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 3; Mockingbird, 21; Catbird, 22; Brown Thrasher, 37; Robin, 77; Wood Trush, 86; Thrush (Olive-backed or Gray cheeked), 1; Veery, 1; Bluebird, 57; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 35; Ruby-crown Kinglet, 2; Starling 15; White-eyed Vireo, 12; Yellow-throated Vireo, 19; Blue-headed Vireo, 2; Red-eyed Vireo, 68; Black and White Warbler, 4; Prothonotary Warbler, 3; Parula Warbler, 27; Yellow Warbler, 2; Magnolia warbler, 1; Cape May Warbler, 11; Black-throated Blue Warbler, 21; Myrtle Warbler, 66; Black-throated Green Warbler, 1; Blackburnian Warbler, 1; Yellow-throated Warbler, 30; Chestnut-sided Warbler, 3; Black Poll Warbler, 26; Pine Warbler, 32; Prairie Warbler, 35; Ovenbird, 21; Northern Water Thrush, 5; Louisiana Water Thrush, 5; Kentucky Warbler, 9; Yellowthroat, 37; Yellow-breasted Chat, 31; Hooded Warbler, 33; Redstart, 55; English Sparrow, 38; Meadowlark, 32; Red-wing, 33; Orchard Oriole, 7; Scarlet Tanager, 4; Summer Tanager, 49; Cardinal, 77; Blue Grosbeak 8; Indigo Bunting, 41; Pine Siskin, 17, Gold-finch, 295; Towhee, 1; Henslow Sparrow, 1; Bachman's Sparrow, 2; Chipping Sparrow, 89; Field Sparrow, 70; White-throated Sparrow, 19; Swamp Sparrow, 29; Song Sparrow, 4; Total species, 106; Total individuals, 2541. Special significance: Cormorant; large flocks of Goldfinches; Henslow Sparrow; Chuck-will's-widow; and Pine Siskins. Seen previous day: Wild Turkey; Cedar Waxwing. Nelson Hairston, Peter Lawrence, Roberta Lovelace, Mrs. Ove Jensen, H. Thomas Odum, Josephine Stewart, Phillips Russell, Mrs. R. B. Sharpe, Bill Thomas, Mrs. H. W. Walters, Maurice Whittinghill.

ANNUAL SPRING COUNT, MISENHEIMER SPRINGS, N. C. On May 7th, I was excused from all classes for the day from Pfeiffer Junior College. My count covered thick woods, a small lake, the borders of a creek, several old fields and farms. My total for the day was 53 birds, an increase over 46 last year, taken on the same day and covering practically the same territory. Birds observed: Bob-White, Killdeer, Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Turkey Vulture, Hummingbird, Flicker, Hairy Woodpecker, Crested Flycatcher, Acadian Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Veery, Bluebird, Blue-Gr. Gnatcatcher, Loggerheaded Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Pine Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Ovenbird, Maryland Yellowthroat, Chat, Hooded Warbler, Redstart, English Sparrow, Bobolink, Meadowlark, Red-Wing, Orchard Oriole, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Goldfinch, Grasshopper Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow. John Trott, Jr.

OLD NESTING RECORDS FROM BEAUFORT COUNTY: The following records are from the neighborhood of Ransomville unless otherwise stated. *Turkey Vultures:* April 14, 1890, 2 eggs in an old hollow gum stump; April 19, 1890, two eggs on ground in old poplar stump. Black Vulture, March 31, 1890, 1 egg in hollow gum log; April 17, 1891, 2 eggs, ten days incubated. *Bald Eagle:* February 27, 1890, nest on Wade's Point up green pine, 100 feet from ground contained 2 fresh eggs. The nest was a huge structure, 4 feet thick and 4 feet broad, nearly flat on top, made of sticks and straw, lined with seaweed, grass and straw, much of which had rotted. The eggs were covered up in the nest, the eagles had occupied it for several years. *Ospreys:* May 7, 1889, nest with 2 fresh eggs, 60 feet up in dead pine; May 18, 1891, four nests on Indian Island, all in live pines at heights of 35 to 50 feet, each with 3 eggs in each case more or less incubated. *Screech Owl*: May 7, 1889, in same dead pine in which was an osprey nest, in an old woodpecker's hole,

it contained four young. *Nighthawks:* Two sets of two eggs each on bare ground on May 25 and June 30, 1889, and three more in 1890, May 16, 26 and June 16. *Pileated Woodpecker*: April 27, 1889, three fresh eggs in hole dug in dead pine 35 feet up, hole 30 inches deep, eggs on chips at bottom of hole. Bird seen to come out of hole. (This is our only dated nesting record for the state for this species—C. S. B.) *Ovenbird*: May 9, 1889, four fresh eggs in domed over nest carefully hidden in side of bunch of pine straw in dry pinewoods. HOWARD WISWALL, Asheville N. C.

In Memoriam

PROFESSOR R. W. GREEN

After a lingering illness, Professor R. W. Green passed away June 15, 1946, at his home at 3328 White Oak Road in Raleigh, North Carolina. Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at Raleigh, with Dr. M. O. Sommers, pastor of the First Baptist Church, officiating. The body was taken to Fredonia, N. Y., former home of Mrs. Green. Private services were held there, Wednesday, June 19th.

With the exception of a short period, Professor Green has been a member of the faculty of State College of the University of North Carolina since 1920, where he filled various positions. At the time of his death he was Associate Professor of Economics in the Basic Division. During World War I he served in the Quartermaster Corps of the United States Army.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green, widely known naturalist, writer, and lecturer; two sisters, Dr. Ruby Green Smith, of Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., and Miss L. Pearl Green, also of Ithaca; a niece and a nephew, and several grandnieces and grandnephews.

Mr. Green was a charter member of the North Carolina Bird Club. We regret the passing of this good friend, and extend our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Green and to the other bereaved relatives.

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MRS. MARY REESE CRAIGHILL

Mrs. Mary Reese Craighill, wife of the late Rev. Francis H. Craighill, who for twenty years prior to his death in 1941 was rector of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd at Rocky Mount, North Carolina, died at Rocky Mount on June 24, 1946, after several years of declining health. Funeral was held June 26th, and burial was in Pineview Cemetery at Rocky Mount.

Born in Baltimore, Md., Mrs. Craighill was the daughter of the late Rt. Rev. Frederick Focke Reese, bishop of Georgia, and Mrs. Ella Parr Reese. After her marriage she lived in Darien, Ga., Gainesville, Fla., and Wytheville, Va., before coming to Rocky Mount in 1921. Until poor health prevented, Mrs. Craighill was active in social, religious, and community affairs in Rocky Mount.

Surviving are two sons, the Rev. Francis Hopkinson Craighill, rector of Bruton Parish church in Williamsburg, Va., and James B. Craighill of Rocky Mount, who was recently discharged from the United States Army; three daughters, Mrs. Conrad Kinyoun of Savannah, Ga., Miss Dorothy Craighill, member of the faculty of the Rocky Mount high school, and Mrs. Luther R. Mills, Jr., of Albany, Ga. Also surviving are five grandchildren.

Mrs. Craighill's husband, the late Reverend Craighill, was a charter member and the second president of the North Carolina Bird Club. Mrs. Craighill was a worthy helpmate to this man of God, who was beloved by all who knew him. We extend our deep sympathy to the bereaved relatives.

With the Editor

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT DATES: The dates for the 1946 Christmas count are December 21 through December 29. Local bird clubs and groups should begin their plans now and set the day for their count. Regulations, which are the same as last year (see *The Chat*, Nov. 1945, pages 74-75), will be reprinted in the November 1946 issue of *The Chat*.

SEASON REPORTS FOR *AUDUBON MAGAZINE*: This is a reminder that nest cards, summer observations, and observations on fall migration should be sent to Howard T. Odum, Chapel Hill, N. C., before December 1st so the material can go into the Audubon Field Notes section of the *Audubon Magazine*.

BIRDS OF THE STATES: We have received a reprint of a large double page chart which appeared in the August issue of *Woman's Day*. Superimposed on a map of the United States of America are attractive colored pictures of the various state birds. Executed by the illustrator Fritz Kredel, with text material by Donald Culcross Peattie, the chart has received much favorable comment by bird lovers and nature enthusiasts. Additional reprints on heavy paper may be secured for 10 cents each by writing to: Box PK 846 *Woman's Day*, 19 W. 44 St., New York 18, N. Y.

HAWK MOUNTAIN SANCTUARY: Each year since its establishment in 1934, except during the war years, hundreds of visitors came to Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Drehersville, Pa., to observe the flight of hawks. Interest and membership increased during the war, and now that the resourceful curator, Maurice Broun, has returned from three years service in the south Pacific, the sanctuary is to be operated, for the first time, throughout the year. October and November is the best time to see the hawk flights and the eagles. Letters of inquiry should be addressed to: Mrs. C. N. Edge, President, 767 Lexington Ave., New York 21, N. Y.

WATERFOWL HUNTING SEASON SHORTENED: The open season for hunting ducks and geese in the southern zone of the United States for 1946-1947 is from November 23rd through January 6th. Last winter, apparently due to pressure from hunters, the end of the hunting season in this zone was extended through January 20th, which was unfortunate since the number of waterfowl have been declining during the past three years, in spite of the little rest which the war gave game during the seasons of 1942 and 1943. During the winter of 1943-44, however, the number of hunting liscenses increased greatly. In 1944, nearly a million and a half duck stamps were sold, and the official estimate of duck stamps sold for the 1945-46 season was 1,700,000. And now, according to United Press reports, the United States Fish and Wildlife service predicts that the current meat shortage will bring out an estimated 1,000,000 additional new hunters this year.

MATTAMUSKEET FIELD TRIP—NOVEMBER 16-17: Members of the North Carolina Bird Club will soon receive cards notifying them of a field trip to Mattamuskeet Migratory Waterfowl Refuge, where ducks, geese, and swans winter in great numbers. The dates are Saturday and Sunday, November 16th and 17th. Trips are planned for Saturday and Sunday under the direction of Refuge Manager, W. G. Cahoon. On Saturday evening, there will be an informal meeting with William Joyner, of Rocky Mount, presiding. Meals and rooms may be secured at Mattamuskeet Lodge, New Holland, N. C., by November 1st. Bring your telescopes as well as field glasses. The committee hopes to be able to arrange also for a boat trip from Swanquarter. Inquiries may be sent to: Howard T. Odum, Field Trip Chairman N.C.B.C., Chapel Hill, N. C.

Important Notice

FALL MEETING OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

Place: Greensboro

Date: Saturday, October 26

General Program:

2:00 P.M.—Field trip, starting point, Aycock Auditorium, Woman's College University of North Carolina, corner Tate and Spring Garden Sts.

6:00 P.M.—Dinner Meeting, at Caldwell School cafeteria, Asheboro and Bragg Streets; plates $1.25 each. Reservations should should be made in advance to: Mrs. H. L. Medford, Box 1411, Greensboro, N. C. (Telephone 9783.)

Brief report by official representative of each local bird club.

Reports and announcements of plans by N.C.B.C. committee chairmen

Talk, "Back Yard Bird Study," by Howard T. Odum, Chapel Hill

Colored moving pictures of birds.

Note: Presidents and other officers of local clubs are urged to have one official delegate and as many other members as possible attend this meeting. The fall meetings are "pep" meetings which will add much enthusiasm to your own local clubs.
Members and non-members are welcome, but PLEASE send to Mrs. Medford AT ONCE for your dinner reservations.

OFFICERS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

PRESIDENT ..... Mrs. O. F. Jensen, Chapel Hill
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT ..... R. B. Chamberlain, Charlotte
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT ..... Dr. R. C. Busteed, Boone
THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT ..... Robert Wolff, Goldsboro
SECRETARY ..... Mrs. H. D. Crockford, Chapel Hill
TREASURER ..... Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, 6 Springdale Court, Greensboro
EDITOR OF THE CHAT ..... A. D. Shaftesbury, W.C.U.N.C., Greensboro
MEMBERS AT LARGE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE .... Miss Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids; Mrs. Cecil M. Appleberry, Wilmington.

Local Clubs and Their Officers

Arden, Rosscraggon Wood, Inc.: P—Miss Margaret Atkins, Skyland; V-P—Miss Jenny Fleetwood Westfeldt, Arden; S-T—Major V. M. Shell, Arden; Board of Governors—H. B. Swope, Skyland; W. H. Lashley, Asheville; Miss Susan Sheppard, Skyland.

Asheville Bird Club: P—Capt. W. A. Angwin, U. S. N.; V-P—R. H. Reinbert; S—Mrs. M. F. Meredith, 10 Castle St.; T—Mrs. Francis E. Field.

Blowing Rock, Blowing Rock Audubon Club: P—Miss Lena Reeves; V-P—Mrs. Joe Winkler.

Boone Bird Club: P—Dr. R. C. Busteed; V-P—Mrs. W. M. Burwell; S-T—Miss Cora Jeffcoat.

Chapel Hill Bird Club: P—Mrs. Harold Walters; V-P and Census Supervisor—Howard T. Odum; S-T—Mrs. David Olson; Publicity Chairman—Mrs. Horace Crockford.

Charlotte, Mecklenburg Audubon Club: P—B. Rhett Chamberlain, 1320 Biltmore Drive; V-P—Sarah Nooe; S—Miss Anne Locke; T—Josephine A. Osborne, Publicity Chairman—Mrs. G. C. Potter, 2111 Malvern Rd., Charlotte 4.

Durham, Duke-Durham Bird Club: P—Miss Bertha B. Hopkins, 506 Buchanan Road; S-T—Mrs. M. W. Johnson.

Greensboro, Piedmont Bird Club: P—Archie D. Shaftesbury; V-P—Mrs. George Perrett and Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall; Rec. S—Miss Inez Coldwell; Cor. S—Miss Etta Schiffman, 319 W. Washington St.; T—Miss Ethel McNairy; Ex. Comm.—Mrs. Edith Settan, Mrs. Chas. Swart.

Guilford College, T. Gilbert Pearson Bird Club: P—Elizabeth Hare; V-P—J. G. Gilbert; S-T—Margery Pickett.

Henderson Bird Club: P—Miss Elizabeth Fox; V-P—Mrs. A. W. Bachman; S-T—Miss Garnette Myers.

Hickory Bird Club: P—J. Weston Clinard; V-P—Mrs. George E. Bisanar; S-T—Mrs. George Fuller.

Lenoir Audubon Club: P—Miss Margaret Harper; V-P—R. T. Greer; S—Miss May Puett, 512 West Harper St.

Lumberton Bird Club: P—James Stephens, Jr.; V-P—Mrs. Henry McKinnon; S—Mrs. D. L. Whiting; T—Miss Lillian Whiting.

Raleigh Bird Club: P—Harry T. Davis; V-P—Ernest Mitchell, Jr.; S—F. B. Meacham, State Museum; Ex- Comm.—J. H. Slaughter, G. M. Garren.

Roanoke Rapids Bird Club: P—Mrs. A. O. Pendleton, R. 1, Bolling Rd.; V-P—Mrs. C. E. Matthews; S—Miss Mary Hix, 536 Hamilton St.; T—Mrs. R. G. Knight.

Rocky Mount, Francis H. Craighill Bird Club: P—J. W. E. Joyner; V-P—Charles Benbow; S—Miss Martha Clark; T—Miss Lilly Shearin.

Southern Pines Bird Club: P—Mary Keller Wintyen; V-P & S—Miss Louise Haynes; T. & Rec. Sec.—Miss Norma Shiring.

Statesville Audubon Club: P—Miss Nancy B. Eliason; V-P—Miss Grace Anderson; S—Mrs. Calhoun Ramsey; T—Mrs. Earl Davis.

Tryon Bird Club: P—G. H. Holmes; S-T—Katherine D. Hamilton.

Wilmington Bird Club: P—Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, 5 Lake Forest Parkway; Honorary President—Theodore G. Empie; V-P—Miss Helen Lovering; S—Mrs. Gregor Rohwer, 260 Lake Forest Parkway; T—Warwick R. Baker; Sec. Jr. Work—Miss Anne Blackwell Payne.

Winston-Salem Bird Club: P—Henry Magie; S-T—Wm. S. Rothrock, 2434 Stockton St.; Directors—Charles H. Babcock, Thurmond Chatham, Jr., Richard J. Reynolds, II.

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

VOL. X NOVEMBER, 1946 No. 5

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Greensboro, N. C.

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

DR. ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY, *Editor*

Woman's College of University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C.

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Message From the President

To The Members of the North Carolina Bird Club, Meeting in Greensboro, October 26:

As I write these words of greeting from northern Michigan, my thoughts turn southward, like the birds, who are winging their way to warmer parts. Just now, I have been thrilled by the honking of wild geese passing over, and pleasantly reminded of the wonderful field trip at Lake Mattamuskeet some years ago. Geese have been going through for three days, and if cold weather continues, we should see them in good numbers by November 16 and 17. During the past two weeks, many flocks of Juncos have been seen along roadsides, indicating a great migration. In Canada north of Lake Superior on September 28 the movement of Blue Jays and Flickers was very apparent. Yesterday I saw a lone Kingfisher, perhaps the last for this season. I shall be glad to soon find myself greeting these travelers again, in North Carolina, for the fields, woods, and waters here are rapidly becoming very silent, indeed.

One of the high-lights of my summer has been a visit to a famous bird-bander's station at Sault St. Marie, Michigan, the home of M. J. Magee. The site of this station is a commanding one, on a high bluff, overlooking the Soo locks. Through these locks an almost steady procession of freighters passes, carrying iron ore, grain, and coal, to various lake ports. An interesting feature of Mr. Magee's grounds is an enclosed area, about 60 by 120 feet, surrounded by a cat-proof fence seven feet high. The wire at the top curls over and down in a circular arc, extending out about 18 inches. To enter through a gate, one steps over a board barrier about 12 inches high, which keeps out small animals. Within the enclosure is the feeding and banding area. Here Mr. Magee has banded over 30,000 purple finches, which is, of course, a record. He has also banded many Evening Grosbeaks. He uses traps of all kinds, some of them very ingenious, but his favorite is a drop trap, with felt flaps around all the edges to prevent injury to birds. Feeding hoppers and trays are of ample capacity. (Mr. Magee spends $150 a year for bird food.) The area also has a number of bird baths, all of low stones with shallow depressions, and each supplied by spray nozzle which sends up a single fine stream of water, fine for birds to bath under or fly through, and, best of all, very economical in the use of water. Mr. Magee has made important scientific contributions in his plumage studies. The fact that this has been done in a garden sanctuary indicates the soundness and importance of Tom Odum's

talk on "Backyard Bird Study," which I am sure will be helpful and inspiring to all of you in encouraging systematic and careful observation.

If wishes could suddenly transport one, I would be with you today. However, the splendid cooperation you see manifested should convince you that we have a "going" organization. Bob Wolff, Dr. Shaftesbury, and Thomas Odum, have really taken all of the responsibility for this meeting, and I wish to sincerely thank them. I shall eagerly look forward to seeing all of you at Mattamuskeet next month. Best wishes to all of you.

ZORA S. JENSEN.

Fall Meeting of the NCBC Held in Greensboro

About eighty members of the North Carolina Bird Club attended the fall meeting which was held Saturday, October 26th, at Caldwell School, Greensboro, with the Piedmont Bird Club as hosts. Vice-President Robert Wolff, Goldsboro, who presided, read a letter of greetings from the President, Mrs. O. F. Jenson, who expected to return shortly from her trip to Michigan. Howard T. Odum, Chapel Hill, State Field Trip Chairman, spoke on the topic, "Back Yard Bird Study." He mentioned some of the interesting and important work which has been done through home observations on Song Sparrows and other birds, and discussed various problems and techniques of bird study. Odum had on exhibit an interesting collection of recent bird books.

Delegates gave brief reports of work and plans of the local bird clubs at Chapel Hill, Charlotte, Greensboro, Henderson, Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Statesville, Wilmington, and Winston-Salem. Reports were also presented from the unorganized groups at Goldsboro and High Point, where it is hoped, local bird clubs will ultimately be established.

The state club officers who were present, including, besides Bob Wolff Vice-President B. R. Chamberlain, Treasurer Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, editor of *The Chat* Archie D. Shaftesbury, and member at large of the Executive Committee Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, were formally recognized. Brief reports were presented by Mrs. Wall and Dr. Shaftesbury, and copies of a mimeographed report on Nature Center plans, written by the Nature Center chairman, Miss Clara Hearne, were distributed. The assembled group stood for a moment in memory of Mrs. Mary Craighill, H. H. Brimley, Dr. C. S. Brimley, and Professor Ralph W. Green. Two reels of excellent colored moving pictures of birds were shown.

Earlier in the afternoon, two field trips were conducted. A small group went to the airport in search of Horned Larks, and got close views

of several of these birds, finally flushing 11. The other field trip, lead by Geo. A Smith, went to Richland (or Jeanette) lake in the hope of seeing waterfowl.

Piedmont Bird Club's hospitality chairman, Mrs. Hugh Medford, with her committee members, Mrs. W. C. Carr and Mrs. H. E. Casstevens, had charge of the dinner arrangements and the table decorations, the latter including very attractive clay birds in greenery, with a note of Halloween in the decorations. During the serving of the splendid turkey dinner, prepared by the Caldwell School P.T.A., Bob Wolff enlivened the proceedings by having bird names drawn for prizes, the holders of lucky names being tested in their bird knowledge before being given their prizes. The group was pleased to have Mrs. H. H. Brimley, Raleigh, present at the meeting.

Mrs. Chas. M. Swart, state membership chairman, stated that the membership of the N.C.B.C. was now 706, and a campaign is being planned to secure 300 new members so that our membership will be at least 1,000 on our tenth birthday, which is March 6th, 1947. Plans are under way to make the tenth anniversary issue of *The Chat*, March 1947, an enlarged memorial edition of about 40 pages, with several specially written feature articles.

News of the Local Clubs

FRANCIS H. CRAIGHILL BIRD CLUB: The October meeting of the Francis H. Craighill Bird Club, held at the Masonic Temple, in Rocky Mount, on the evening of Tuesday, the fifteenth, was a "backyard bird study session," led by members, who discussed common permanent and summer residents. Present were 22 members and two visitors.

At least five members of the club are planning to attend the field trip at Lake Mattamuskeet on November 16 and 17.

On Monday, November 18, the Club is sponsoring two illustrated lectures by Alexander Sprunt, Jr. Both will be held in the auditorium of the Rocky Mount high school, one at 3:30 P.M. for school children, and the other at 8:00 P.M., for the general public. It is hoped that members of the North Carolina Bird Club and other local bird clubs will be able to attend the evening lecture.

MARTHA CLARK, *Secretary*.

PIEDMONT BIRD CLUB: Started its fall season with a picnic supper which was held at the Greensboro Country Park club house on Saturday evening, September 21. At a brief business session, the club decided to invite the North Carolina Bird Club to Greensboro for a fall meeting. It was also voted that the fund usually paid for an annual free public lecture would be used this year to secure a telescope for the club.

At the October meeting, held on Thursday evening, the seventeenth, at the Science building, Womans College, three speakers were presented: Col. Frank Page, past president of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation, discussed briefly the history of

conservation of North Carolina's natural resources and stated the objectives of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation; George A. Smith described his recent visit to the Pymatuning, Pa., Wildlife Refuge; and Dr. Archie Shaftesbury reported on the recent meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union which he attended at Urbana, Illinois.

HICKORY BIRD CLUB: Regular meetings of the Hickory Bird Club were resumed Thursday evening, September 12th, after the usual lapse of the August meeting, when eleven members met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Weston Clinard. A committee was appointed to prepare the book for the coming year's meetings, and the possibility of sharing with the Lenoir Audubon Club the expenses for a special lecturer was discussed. Each member present received a giant sunflower with ripened seeds, and the members were asked to save some of the seed for planting. A lively round table discussion was held of the fall migration which had already begun.

Eighteen members and one guest of the Lenoir Audubon Club came to Hickory Thursday evening, October 10th, as guests of the Hickory Bird Club for their regular meeting with Mrs. W. J. Shuford as hostess. Preceding the program, the hostess served refreshments, buffet style. Favors for the Lenoir guests were bird calendars in booklets. The Hickory members received the club year books, which contained tentative programs for the meetings for the coming year, with an appropriate bird poem for each month, with covers decorated with a pair of Cardinals painted by the Hickory Club's artist, A. J. Bradshaw. Dr. H. D. Althouse gave an informal lecture on birds, using paintings by Mr. Bradshaw to illustrate his subjects, which included Blue Jays, Tufted Titmice, Kinglets, Crested Flycatchers, Cardinals, Sapsuckers, Woodpeckers, wrens, and others. The round table discussion included the relation of unusual bird experiences.

J. Weston Clinard, *President.*

AUDUBON SCREEN TOURS AT ASHEVILLE: All seats are already sold out for the five lectures, with color motion pictures of American birds and other wildlife, which are being brought to Asheville this year by the Asheville Bird Club, which has over 200 members. The dates are as follows: Dec. 2, John H. Storer; Jan 7, Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr.; Feb. 4, 1947, Bert Harwell; March 11, Laurel Raynolds; Apr. 3, Karl Maslowski. All the lectures will be in the David Milliard Junior High School Auditorium, starting at 8:00 P. M.

AUDUBON SCREEN TOUR AT CHARLOTTE: A number of members of the North Carolina Bird Club from outside Charlotte plan to attend the series of five lectures which the Mecklenburg Audubon Club is bringing to Charlotte this winter. Following are the lecturers and dates: December 3, John H. Storer; January 9, 1947, Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr.; February 5, Bert Harwell; March 13, Laura Reynolds April 2, Karl Maslowski. The first lecture will be given at the Charlotte Central High School, at 8:00 P.M. Out-of-town memberships for the series are $2.00 for adults, and $1.00 for children, and—if any are still available—may be secured by addressing: Mecklenburg Audubon Club, 1320 Biltmore Drive, Charlotte, N. C.

Christmas Bird Count, Dec. 21-29

The indications are that this year an increasing number of North Carolina Bird Club members will cooperate with the National Audubon Society in making the Christmas count of the number and kinds of birds in their community. *All local clubs, groups, and individuals are asked to*

make local counts wherever possible. Enlist the help of every local bird enthusiast in this enjoyable game and see that beginners go with more experienced observers. Here in condensed form, are some of the rules of the count.

Abbreviated Rules for the Count

1. Counts are to be made between December 21 and 29, inclusive. No counts should be taken earlier or later than these dates.

2. An adequate count for North Carolina localities should last at least 7 hours and may not extend beyond one calendar day. From dawn to dusk is best.

3. The total area covered must not exceed a circle 15 miles in diameter.

4. Birds not actually recorded in the area itself are not to be included in the totals.

5. Birds must be listed in the order of the A.O.U. check list as followed in most recent bird books, as *Birds of North Carolina* and Peterson's *Field Guide to the Birds.* Do not use sub-specific names, except in a few cases where subspecies can be readily identified in the field and you have made such identification.

6. Count all wild birds positively identified by sight or sound. Count exotic species, as English Sparrow and Starling, on the same basis as native birds. In case of unusual rarity, substantiating details must be given in parentheses, immediately following the records, with the initials of the observer vouching for its identification.

7. A numerical value is to be given to the number of birds seen. Necessary estimates of large flocks should be indicated as such, and the words "abundant" "common," and such are to be avoided.

8. Observations made on foot while covering a prescribed route which will remain the same from year to year is preferred. Each hour afield by a lone observer counts as one hour, but observers, when working as a party, record only total hours the party was in the field. If a party breaks up into smaller groups, the time should be adjusted accordingly. Mileage should be recorded on the same basis.

9. Each participant or each party should submit only one report. The count should be submitted under the name of the most significant geographical locality in or adjacent to the area. Give the time of starting, ending, weather conditions, number of observers, the various habitat types covered and the total percentage of time spent in each, number of miles covered by cars and on foot, and names of observers.

10. If possible, reports should be typewritten, double spaced, and one side of the paper. For the sake of the printers, please do not send us faint carbon copies or reports on very thin sheets. Mail your report to: *The Chat*, care Woman's College U.N.C., Greensboro, N. C., not later than December 30th. Give names of all participants. A record on *a separate sheet of paper of the names and addresses of all* participants will be appreciated. (Copies to appear in the Audubon Magazine should be mailed promptly to: National Audubon Society, 1006 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.)

11. Check your report with the following sample report to see that it conforms.

SAMPLE REPORT

White Pine Sanctuary (*Clover Co.*) Ill., same area as 1927 count and subsequent counts; pine woodland 70%; pasture land 20%; small ponds 10%). Dec. 19. Overcast, with heavy fog until 10 a.m. and light snowfall from 3 p.m. on; wind N., 13-18 m.p.h.; temp. 40 degrees to 20 degrees F.; ground bare, water open. Three observers together. Total hours, 10 on foot; total miles, 12 on foot. Common loon, 1; Am. bittern, 1; European widgeon (a male seen at 500 yds. with 20X scope

—HLM.), 1; Am. golden-eye, 100 (est.); Barrow's golden-eye, 1; kingfisher, 2; flicker, 6; Carolina chickadee, 21; Am. pipit, 6; yellow-throat (seen daily since Nov.), 1; English sparrow, 27; redwing, 2,000 (est.); grackle, 6; slate-colored junco, 270. Total, 29 species, approximately 2,897 individuals. (Seen in area Dec. 22: Canada goose, 17; mallard, 2; coot, 5. The usual heavy population of grain-eating species was due to the large amount of waste grain still available as a result of a severe storm just before the fall harvest season.)—H. L. Mark, R. C. Smith, Mary Pelt.

Dr. Arnold Breckenridge

Ten or fifteen years ago an early riser out in the Tenny Circle section of Chapel Hill would have frequent occasion to observe a stocky, well-built figure clad in field clothes and boots striding down through the pine woods towards the mist-covered low-grounds of Bowlin's creek. Arnold Breckenridge loved Strowd's Lowgrounds, as these bottoms are locally called, and probably spent more time exploring them than any other bird student, past or present. Far from being a wasteland as the casual observer might conclude, the Lowgrounds were to Arnold a watery oasis among the forested hills, the only readily accessible place in the region where Wilson's Snipe, Woodcock, and other shore birds, rails, marsh wrens, the larger hawks, red-wing blackbirds and many other lovers of marsh and swamp forest could be found in any numbers. Arnold was especially fond of the great red-crested Pileated Woodpecker and found more nests of this supposedly uncommon bird than all the rest of the Chapel Hill bird students put together.

Dr. Arnold Breckenridge was born in Chicago, Ill. He became interested in birds and the out-of-doors at an early age, partly, at least, through the influence of his father, M. S. Breckenridge, Professor of Law at the University of North Carolina, who obtained much pleasure from bird observation as a hobby. During his high school and college days, Arnold spent much time in the field, especially in the lowgrounds which became his special province. In 1935 he contributed important data to the *Birds of Chapel Hill*, [*N.C.*] (published in Journal of Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society, 51: 312-340), of which he was a co-author. The accuracy of his records could be counted upon because he was a careful, conservative observer and a judicious collector, backing up unusual or difficult identifications with specimens. I believe that the pleasure he derived from preparing bird skins and the skill he developed with scalpel and scissors had much to do with his decision to enter the field of medicine. After receiving his bachelor's degree at the University of North Carolina he went to McGill University in Montreal, Canada, receiving his Doctor of Medicine in 1942. As with all young M.D.'s during the war period he was soon taken into the armed services, becoming a Lieutenant in the Navy. It was while thus serving his country that he was killed in a blimp accident on the west coast early in 1945.

Arnold Breckenridge was not only a good ornithologist, a keen observer and a delightful field companion, but at heart he was an explorer. Like all real explorers he was extremely modest even though he prided himself in his ability to meet new situations as they might arise, whether in the woods or elsewhere. Probably the same spirit of adventure and exploration which led him as a boy to explore the Lowgrounds and to take canoe trips through the wild stretches of eastern Carolina rivers with Edmund Taylor and others, prompted him to undertake the fateful trip on the blimp when he was not required to do so in the line of duty. Chapel Hill and North Carolina have lost an extremely promising citizen, because without a doubt this spirit of fearless inquiry would have carried him far both in his profession of medicine and his avocation as outdoorsman and naturalist.

Eugene P. Odum, Athens, Ga.

Bird Book Suggestions for Christmas

Mrs. O. F. Jensen, *President N.C.B.C.*, Chapel Hill

Birds of North Carolina, by T. Gilbert Pearson, C. S. Brimley, and H. H. Brimley (1942), State Museum, Raleigh, N. C. $3.50. Should be in the hands of every student of North Carolina birds. Not many copies left.

A Field Guide to the Birds (east of the Rockies), by Roger Tory Peterson (revised and enlarged 1939), Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. $2.75. Many regard it as the best field guide now available.

Audubon Bird Guide, Eastern Land Birds, by Richard H. Pough (1946), Doubleday & Co., Inc., Garden City, N. Y. $3.00. Sponsored by the National Audubon Society. Has 48 color plates illustrating more than 400 different bird plumages. Just published, but already popular with those who have seen it.

Field Book of Eastern Birds, by Leon Hausman (1946), Putnam's Sons, New York. $3.75. Not perfect (what field guide is?), but has several excellent features to help beginners.

The Ducks, Geese, and Swans of North America, by Francis Kortright (second edition 1943), American Wildlife Institute, Washington, D. C. $4.50. For sportsmen and bird students; 36 color plates and over 200 line drawings and maps.

Wings at my Window, by Ada Clapham Govan (1940, 1946), fourteenth printing. The Macmillan Co., N. Y. $2.50. Stories by an invalid who was interested in befriending and banding birds.

A Guide to Bird Watching, by Joseph J. Hickey (1943), Oxford University Press, N. Y. $3.50. The first American book to describe the modern art of bird watching. Contains an extensive annotated list of bird books.

Modern Bird Study, by Ludlow Griscom (1945), Harvard University Press, Cambridge. $2.50. Traces the development of bird study from the days of field study with a shot gun to the present intensive study of live birds, and outlines important facts regarding bird distribution on the western hemisphere.

The Golden Plover and Other Birds, by Arthur A. Allen (1939), Comstock Publishing Company, Ithaca, N. Y., $3.00. Additional stories of bird biographies with some good color plates.

The Natural History of the Birds of Eastern and Central North America, by E. H. Forbush and John E. May (1939), Houghton Mifflin & Co., N. Y. $5.00. The many fine color plates, from "Birds of Massachusetts," more than make up for the somewhat out-of-date text and nomenclature.

Birds of the South, by Charlotte Hilton Green (1933), The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill. $1.50. Thirty-two color plates, with sketches about the permanent and winter birds commonly found in southern gardens, fields, and woods.

Birds of Georgia, by Earle R. Greene, William W. Griffin, Eugene P. Odum, Herbert L. Stoddard, and Ivan R. Tomkins (1945), The University of Georgia Press, Athens. $2.00. A preliminary check list and bibliography.

Birds of The Ocean, by W. B. Alexander (1928). Putnam's Sons, N. Y. $3.50. Notes on habits, and guides to the identification of the sea birds of the world.

The Junior Book of Birds, by Roger Tory Peterson (1939), Houghton Mifflin & Co., Boston. $2.00. With color plates of common species; a splendid book for children interested in birds.

Traveling with Birds, by Rudyard Boulton (1933), Donohue & Co., N. Y. $1.50. A children's book on bird migration; large size with full page color plates of some common birds.

Buzzards Roost Heron Rookery

J. L. Stephens, Lumberton, N. C.

A visit to Buzzards Roost heron rookery, ten miles southeast of Lumberton, North Carolina, in the Lumber river swamps, would not appeal to the armchair naturalist, but the members of the Lumberton bird club who made this trip on May 29th were well rewarded for their efforts. To reach the rookery it was necessary to go by boat down a swamp run lined on either side by ash, black gum, and cypress trees. The Spanish moss on the trees and the numerous cypress knees projecting out of the water made this area an ideal habitat for the Parula, Yellow-throat, and Prothonotary Warblers. All about us the midday silence of the vast swamp was broken only by the incessant calls of the White-eyed Vireo, Tufted Titmouse, and the distant hammering of the Pileated Woodpecker. From time to time as the boat drifted in the swamp run we saw Downy Woodpeckers searching the trunks of trees for grubs. Presently we reached an old tram road, formerly used in hauling logs from the swamp. Here all members of the party left the boats and donned hip boots. As we waded along, Prothonotary Warblers darted in and out of the swamp tangle near the trail. On one occasion a Yellow-billed Cuckoo paused in its flight to stare at the strange creatures that had the audacity to invade its domain.

After wading five hundred yards, we could hear a loud monotone, the incessant chattering of hundreds of hungry young herons. As we approached the vicinity of the noise, there was the unmistakable musky odor of the heron rookery. High overhead Black Vultures and Turkey Vultures circled, ever waiting for the tragedy of death, for many young fall from the rickety nests in the tall swamp trees.

From the center of the heronry it was possible to estimate its size. For a hundred and fifty yards in each direction, nests were in every tree. Water oaks, cypress and ash trees were used extensively by hundreds of American Egrets which were far more numerous than the only other species present, the Great Heron. The Great Blue Herons showed a decided preference for cypress trees in nesting, while the American Egrets used many different types trees.

How complicated are the life relationships in a heron rookery. Confusion was everywhere. Adult and young herons, as a means of defense, showered down the half digested fragments of crayfish and other small animals on us as we waded about the rookery. Water snakes were present and evidently found the bird colony a sort of free lunch counter, for such concentrations of wildlife inevitably attract predators and scavengers.

A conservative estimate of the American Egrets and Great Blue Herons at Buzzards Roost rookery is about 1,100 birds. On the water under the nest trees were numerous egret plumes, formerly much in demand for the millinery trade. Thanks to the untiring efforts of Edward W. Bok, T. Gilbert Pearson and others, the plume hunter no longer plies his unholy trade and the egrets of Buzzards Roost and other bird colonies are preserved for the enjoyment of the public.
(July 19, 1946.)

Sunday's Stroll

My garden, last Saturday sprouted a crop of those ugly, red, poisonous toad stools that prompted Sunday's stroll through woods to a meadow in search of edible mushrooms. None were found but, instead, many late violets were most welcome and my compensation was, on the return trip, meeting old friends, the trees on the banks of a stream of clear water flowing rapidly over a granite bed, same channel, same

eternal rock for the past twenty million years and today the slanting rays of the October sun presented a fascinating study of the changing cycle of the seasons.

Along these banks were large weeping willows in full green leaf, with those swaying, curtain-like limbs inviting a visit underneath. Searched for birds, none seen but evidences of their recent feeding in a dogwood tree resplendent in abundant plump, red berries amid leaves tinged with red. The poplars along the bank were in green leaf, those on uplands showed that clear, lemon yellow that is one of the choice colors of autumn.

The sassafras was a riot of colors, leaves at terminals being wine red to contrast the seared yellow leaf of the nearby hickory, under which were gnawed husks and shells of the early falling nuts, telling me that the thrifty squirrels were again storing food. The stroll paid a final dividend in an armful of late wildflower and twigs with red leaves for my book case, my souvenir of Mother Nature's beauty and bounty—"Mother Nature that kind old nurse who whispers to us secrets of the universe."

HENRY MAGIE, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Questions and Answers

Please settle an argument. Is it true that the male mocker leaves America and goes to South America or some point south during the winter? Some "bird book" is responsible for the statement. I may be mistaken, but I think I see the male on my bird bath every day during the winter. If it is true that the male leaves the female and goes south, is this the only bird that does that?

Apparently this question refers to the Mockingbird and not to the Brown Thrasher or Catbird. With our Mockingbird, the sexes cannot be certainly distinguished in color. The distribution is chiefly in southeastern United States, its range extending to east Texas, south Florida, and the Bahamas. They have been introduced into Bermuda. Apparently the Mockingbird is a permanent resident throughout its range except perhaps in the northernmost localities where it occasionally occurs accidentally. There seems to be no evidence of any marked migration of either males or females over any of its range. The bird at your bird bath may have been an unmated one which later secured a mate.

Field Notes and News

CHIMNEY SWIFTS: A flock of 200 (est.) was observed on September 14th, at a chimney of the Presbyterian Church in the down town business section of Winston-Salem.

JOHN SHIPLEY.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.: Blue-winged Teal (14) are feeding on a private lake near here. They were first seen on October 14. A few Canada Geese have arrived on Wiltshire Lake; no large flocks as yet.
(October 17, 1946.)

HENRY MAGIE.

PROBLEMATICAL SIGHT RECORDS: In going over the Christmas bird count in the January 1946 issue of *The Chat*, I was startled to note two Wood Pewees listed by Messrs. Cahoon and McKinney, at Lake Mattamuskeet refuge, under date of December 29, 1945. This bird normally winters in Central and South America, with possibly a few wintering in south Florida. If the birds seen were Wood Pewees,

they deserved special comment. Likewise needing comment were the Redstarts at Asheville, and the Black and Least Terns at Wilmington.

E. B. CHAMBERLAIN, Curator, Vertebrate Zoology, The Charleston Museum, Charleston, S. C.

HICKORY, N. C,: On Sept. 25th, I saw a small flock of Pipits, with a large flock of doves, in the same field and about the same date as last year. This field was an open field planted in nursery apple trees, and located in West Hickory. I could walk within 15 feet of the Pipits before they would fly, and then they would fly but a few yards.

D. L. WRAY, Raleigh, N. C.

GOLDFINCH NESTS LATE AT ARDEN, N. C.: On October 1, friends at Rosscraggon called me to come to look at a bird's nest in a little Lombardy poplar. We could just see three or four baby birds sticking their heads out of the nest, and for a few days we could not tell just what they were. But we saw the mother bird, and it was a Goldfinch. On October 5, the young birds came out of the nest and we could see them plainly. Miss Susan Sheppard, Mr. Carr, and myself observed them. "Birds of North Carolina," (1942), Page 351, records that "in Buncombe County they breed in July and August," so October 5th appears to be very unusual.

MRS. DODETTE GRINNELL, Asheville, N. C.

ARKANSAS KINGBIRD AT WILMINGTON: During the latter part of April, Dr. Thomaas M. Hall reported that he had observed here what he believed was an Arkansas Kingbird. My field notes for October 19, 1946 read: "Lake Forest bird with yellow underparts; shrike-like head; kingbird stance." The bird was in the top of a low cypress and we were able to observe it for about 30 minutes. On our return, Mr. Appleberry got out the bird books and identified it as an Arkansas Kingbird. On account of their rarity in the eastern part of the United States, I hesitated to report this bird, but I now believe that it was definitely an Arkansas Kingbird.

MRS. CECIL M. APPLEBERRY.

DEAD BIRDS ON ALBEMARLE SOUND BRIDGE: As requested in the September isue of *The Chat,* regarding the dead birds on the Albemarle Sound Bridge, here is a note which I made on Saturday, August 3. The south end of the bridge had a good many dead birds, most all being Purple Martins. I am usually in Edenton at this time of the year, and I have been noting the flocks of martins which congregate on the wires near where I visit. The birds have decreased in number during the past two years, perhaps due to the extension of the street and the construction of a great many new residences. The number of birds which I saw on the bridge this year was about the same as last year.

JEANNETTE S. BACHMAN, Henderson, N. C.

JUNCO NEST OBSERVED AT PINEOLA, N. C.: On July 20, while walking among some small hemlocks near Linville river, at Pineola (Avery county) N. C., I noticed a pair of Carolina Juncos which seemed much disturbed by my presence. On examining a hemlock about four feet high, I found a nest with three half grown young. The nest was three feet from the ground, and was composed of grass, rootlets, and weeds, and lined with horsehair. When I moved back from the tree, the female went on her nest again. The location of the nest is interesting, since it is commonly stated that the nests are "usually placed on the ground, under a tuft of grass or weeds, sometimes in rock crevices, or upturned tree roots."

D. L. WRAY, Raleigh, N. C.

RONDA, N. C.: I saw only a few birds before the northward migration this spring. We had a Harris Sparrow at a ground feeding station at Rondabout, near Ronda, in February. It was with White-throat and White-crowned Sparrows, and very gentle. This was a new one for me. During the war, my men at Ronda continued to feed waterfowl, and I was delighted to have more than 120 Canada Geese when I returned. I had less than 20 in 1940-41. We also had several hundred ducks wintering with us, mostly Mallards and Blacks, but about 30 Pintail, and 20 Wood Duck which came in the ponds at night, and on the northward migration, a pair of Widgeon, a few Green-winged Teal, and Lesser and Greater Scaup.
(July 5, 1946.)

THURMOND CHATHAM.

NIGHTHAWK MIGRATION NOTED AT CHARLOTTE: Wednesday evening, September 11, I was watching Nighthawks fly south over my garden, when I decided to count those which were visible from my glider on the terrace. From a little after 5 o'clock until 6:45, I counted 187, and during one 15 minute period there were 41. My garden is enclosed by tall trees, so the birds were being counted on a very small patch of sky. I mentioned this to B. R. Chamberlain, and it so happened that he was observing where he could see for several blocks, and from 5:30 to two minutes before 6:00 he counted 300. There was quite a noticeable movement of Nighthawks over my garden on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings, September 9, 10, and 11, with Wednesday outstanding. The first two days I hardly realized they were migrating.

Today (September 13th) I saw the first Rose-breasted Grosbeak for my garden—a female, and it was quite a thrill.

ELIZABETH BARNHILL CLARKSON.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLERS ON THE CHOWAN RIVER: On June 1 we spent the day on the Chowan River. The owner of the cabin, Mr. May, had hung a tin can just outside the door of the cabin, which was built at the edge of the water. A pair of Prothonotary Warblers built a nest in it. We had hoped to visit there before the young birds left the nest, but we were a few days late. However, the parents were around and just before we arrived they, in some way, got in the porch and Mrs. May, our hostess, closed the door to keep them until we should get there as she was expecting us. We caught them, examined them and then carried them outside to release them. They were put on a box but seemed reluctant to go. Mary Jo ran to get the kodak to get a picture. Did they wait for her? They did, and Mrs. Suiter snapped two pictures. They were the first Prothonotaries I had seen and to hold them both in my hands was an experience I shall never forget. The nest, of course, was added to my collection. CLARA HEARNE.

LARGE WHITE BIRD AT GREENSBORO UNIDENTIFIED: On the morning of February 20th, while riding east on West Market Street, I noticed several cars and trucks parked ahead. Several people were in the street watching a large white bird which was standing in the middle of the street. Our car was approximately 200 yards away when I first detected what the center of attraction was. Just then the bird started to fly, taking off due east down the middle of the street. Unfortunately the driver of the car in which I was a passenger was not inclined to increase his speed, and the bird drew away from us rapidly, rising very gradually. After several hundred yards it was above the trees, and veered suddenly to the north and then turned more slowly in a wide arc to the west, completely reversing its original direction. I was quite disappointed that I was unable to get nearer and identify the bird positively. However, the view I did get led me to feel sure that

it was a Whistling Swan of the year. The large size and dusky color were noticable even at the distance separating us. The fact that the legs were short and attached somewhat to the rear of the body was also noticed. A light rain had fallen during the night, so possibly the swan (?) mistook the damp macadam for a lake and tried to alight, as has been known to occur. G. A. Smith.

OLD NESTING RECORDS FROM EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA: On reading Howard Wiswall's notes "Old Nesting Records from Beaufort County," in the September 1946 issue of *The Chat*, I looked up some of my notes made in the late 80's and early 90's and found the following: On April 25th, 1889, I found a Pileated Woodpecker's nest in a dead cypress about 40 feet up containing two newly laid eggs; and another nest on April 22, 1891, in a dead pine about 30 feet up, which had three slightly incubated eggs. These nests were all very similar, being excavations made by the birds to the depth of from 18 to 24 inches, the bottoms being covered with bits of wood. On the 11th of May, 1891, I found a Prothonotary Warbler's nest in a dead birch stump. It had four newly laid eggs. The stump was in a swamp, and the nest was placed about 5 feet from the ground. This, so far as I know, is the first recorded nest of this species for this state. The above notes are records from Bertie County.

In the Spring of 1896 I visited Indian Island in Beaufort County, and found Fish Hawks nesting at that time. I estimated that 18 or 20 pairs of nests on the Island, all placed in trees, 35 to 75 feet up from the ground. The nests were bulky and hard to get to, but, I secured three sets of three eggs each and one set of four eggs, all very slightly incubated. This was on May 7th, 1896. I also found Red-Wing Blackbirds and Purple Grackles nesting on the Island at that time.

J. W. P. Smithwick, La Grange, N. C.

BEAUFORT, N. C.—The Ornithology Class from North Carolina State College went to Beaufort for a field trip April 26-28, 1946. Most of the bird observations were made on Saturday, April 27, visiting North River, the Lenoxville Heronry, Piver's Island, Shackleford Banks around the Mullet Pond, Fort Macon and Atlantic Beach. In spite of a cold north wind, fifty-five species were recorded. Herring Gulls were still plentiful; the shore birds had not yet begun to appear in numbers; nesting was in full swing in the heronry, with an estimated three hundred plus birds (Snowy Egret, Louisiana Heron, Little Blue Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron). Birds observed: Common Loon, 4; Red-throated Loon, 1; Double-crested Cormorant, 40; Great Blue Heron, 1; Snowy Egret, 125; Louisiana Heron, 100; Little Blue Heron, 75; Black-crowned Night Heron, 20; Red-breasted Merganser, 60; Turkey Vulture, 2; Red-shouldered Hawk, 4; Bald Eagle, 3; Osprey, 1; Semi-palmated Plover, 25; Black-bellied Plover, 1; Hudsonian Curlew, 1; Spotted Sandpiper, 8; Solitary Sandpiper, 2; Willet, 4; Greater Yellowlegs, 4; Dowitcher, 1; Sanderling, 25; Herring Gull, 1000 plus; Ring-billed Gull, 5; Laughing Gull, 200; Common Tern, 10; Least Tern, 600; Caspian Tern, 20; Royal Tern, 10; Black Skimmer, 150; Mourning Dove, 8; Chimney Swift, 20; Eastern Kingbird, 1; Barn Swallow, 10; Purple Martin, 10; Fish Crow, 5; Carolina Wren, 5; Mockingbird, 10; Catbird, 3; Brown Thrasher, 3; Bluebird, 6; Migrant Shrike, 2; Starling, 10; White-eyed Vireo, 4; Pine Warbler, 4; Prairie Warbler, 12; Yellow-throat, 4; English Sparrow, 12; Redwing, 2; Boat-tailed Grackle, 75; Cardinal, 4; Towhee, 8; Savannah Sparrow, 4; Seaside Sparrow, 1; Field Sparrow, 2. Observers: T. L. Quay, Elliot Purlson, R. C. Burris, Malcolm Edwards, Thomas Wilson.
(May 19, 1946.)

CHERRY GROVE BEACH, S. C.: While these records are from out of the state, the bird life at Cherry Grove Beach, South Carolina, is very representative of

the extreme Southeastern section of North Carolina. On June 2nd the weather was mild, about 60° and slightly cloudy. About twelve people observed marsh, beach, and woodland birds.

On the beach: Sanderlings, Semi-palmated Plover, Least Terns, Laughing Gulls, Bald Eagles, Ospreys, Fish Crows, Louisiana Heron, and Wilson Plover were observed. Our birding party particularly enjoyed the sight of six Brown Pelicans busily fishing off shore.

In the marsh were found: Clapper Rail, Little Green Heron, American Egret, Great Blue Heron, Red-winged Blackbird, Purple Martin, Barn Swallow, Pied-billed Grebe, Mockingbird, Boat-tailed Grackle, Turkey Vulture, and Black Vulture. The most spectacular observation of marsh bird life was the discovery of a nesting colony of approximately 200 Wilson's Plover. All nests examined had eggs.

In the marsh border vegetation, among the live oaks, long leaf pines, and sub-dominant vegetation of the forest, the following birds were observed: Red and White-eyed Vireo, Cardinal, Catbird, Wood Thrush, Brown Thrasher, Tufted Titmouse, Blue Jay, Mourning Dove, Orchard Oriole, Crested Flycatcher, Kingbird, Chimney Swift, Bluebird and the Painted Bunting. Total species observed 37. While this is not a comprehensive list of all the birds of this section, it is representative of the commoner species present in June. Observers: Dr. Elford Morgan, Thomas Hamilton, J. L. Stephens.
(July 19, 1946.)

NOTES ON HENSLOW'S SPARROW: What a pleasure it is to go into the field to study bird habits and activities and then see a bird that is not known to be very common to a particular region. Such luck occurred during the middle of last July in one of the grass fields of the Soil Conservation Nursery at Chapel Hill, N. C. The bird was the Henslow's Sparrow. There were two of the birds using a plot which had rain water in the furrows of the field, forming a habitat suitable for this species, namely wet meadow land. The field has since been mowed, and the birds have moved to another location.

Henslow's Sparrow is not conspicuous until it is seen. Then the nature and activity of the bird is indelibly printed on the mind so that at any future time it may be easily recognized in the field. It has the sparrow size, shape, and general color. Only when the bird is in proper lighting may one notice the faint olive-buff tint to the head and neck. The bend of the wing is slightly rufous in color. Its song and field manner make positive identification easier. The song, or rather call of the bird, is incredibly unharmonious and uninteresting. Perhaps the strangeness of the call first attracted me to the bird. It is doubtful if the song could be heard more than 80 yards from the bird's position. The bird seems to be lisping something similar to *tsi-earp* and as it does this the head is thrown upward to assist in its noble effort and the wings slightly quivver at the bend.

Only from the top, or near the top, of curly dock, goldenrod and red top grass in the field did the bird make its call. Also heard, on a few occasions, was a faint *chirp* or *pip* call that is not audible more than 15 yards from the bird. The bird has a distinctive flight, undulating or wavy, like a woodpecker. Flights are short and swift and seldom more than 8 feet above the vegetation level.

Field marks: Sparrow size; head streaked with brown overcast by olivebuff tinge more pronounced on nape of neck; a dark patch behind the black eyes look like an ear muff; back and shoulders has wide brown stripes more concentrated along median line; wings lighter brown in color and unstreaked; throat whitish gray; belly clear gray but side of breast is spotted-streaked with brown; tail brown and no neat fold of tail feathers; legs flesh color.

To my knowledge there is no North Carolina nesting record of the Henslow's Sparrow. The action of the birds indicated that there was a nest somewhere in the field, but a thorough search failed to disclose its location. One day I visited the

field to find that a combine had cut a 50 foot strip around the three acre field. After that only one bird was seen. It is possible that the other may have been killed while on or near the nest. The two birds certainly presented every indication that a nest of eggs was being incubated. At no time during the 12 days observation did I notice the birds leaving the confines of the three acre field.

W. L. Hamnet, Project Leader State-wide Investigator of Wildlife Habitat and Distribution, Raleigh, N. C.

YOUNG COASTAL OAK-HICKORY FOREST. Forest in transition from pine to live oak and laurel oak-hickory climax. Forest crown thin with moderate undergrowth of saplings and shrubs; trees averaging about 30 feet high and 8 inches DBH; Crown trees: Pine, 30%, average 11 inches DBH; Live oak, 39%; average 5 inches DBH; laurel oak, 23%, average 7 inches DBH; pignut hickory, 7%, average 6 inches DBH; holly, 1%, average 2 inches DBH; Undergrowth: holly, 23%; oak saplings, 34%; sparkleberry, 20%; others, 23% (including: wax Myrtle, Osmanthus, Yaupon.) SIZE: Approximately 4.2 acres (100x200 yds. with string). LOCATION: 30 yds. from the sound at the Carolina Marine Biological laboratory, Beaufort, N. C.; tract bordered by small mud flat on one side, a field, a clearing, and the sound on the other sides. TOPOGRAPHY: flat. EDGE: Large effect: the whole area may be considered as an edge to the field, clearing, and mudflat. SURVEYS AND COVERAGE: 9 hours on 11 and 12 June 1946. WEATHER: scattered clouds, wind: 12-30 mph. CENSUS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 1P; Flicker, 1Y; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 1P; Crested Flycatcher, 1P; Fish Crow, 1P; Chipping sparrow, 1P; Towhee, 1Y; Cardinal, 1Y; Painted Bunting, 2P; Red-eyed Vireo, 2P; White-eyed Vireo, 1P; Yellow-throated Warbler, 1P; Pine warbler, 1P; Prairie Warbler, 1Y; Carolina Wren 1Y; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 1Y; Carolina Chickadee, 1Y; Tufted Titmouse, 1P; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 1Y; Brown Thrasher, 1P; Total, 20 species, 22 pairs. DENSITY: 104 adults per 100 acres. Visitors: Purple Martins darting incessantly among tree-tops.

Howard Thomas Odum, Chapel Hill, N. C.

CLIMAX SALT MARSH. Spartina alone dominating 60% of area; Juncus alternating in patches with Salicornia and Spartina, 40% of area; flooded by highest tides with several permanent pools containing great numbers of fiddler crabs and associated fauna; divided by small tidewater ditch and bordered on one side by another ditch. LOCATION: In typical marsh—between pine woods and the sound on the Oyster Farm of the Fish and Wildlife Service on the North river near Beaufort, N. C. SIZE: 12.5 acres (300x200 yds. with string). EDGE: No significant effect—area is 50 yds. from pine woods on one end and the sound on the other; long sides are bordered by similar marsh; no pairs attracted. SURVEY AND COVERAGE: 12 hours on June 9 and 10 1946; Weather: clear, wind 25-35 mph. CENSUS: Clapper Rail, 1P, 1Y; Willet, 1N; Seaside Sparrow, 12 singing birds. (Total Seaside Sparrows counted, 30); total, 3 species, 15 pairs (singing bird as a pair). DENSITY: 120 pairs per 100 acres. REGULAR VISITORS: (Since these species feed over an area far larger than the census area, the average number present at any time seems to be the best representation of density. Fractions are obtained by dividing the time present by the total time of observation.) Snow Egret, 1; Louisiana Heron, 1; Little Blue Heron, 3; Green Heron, 5; Turkey Vulture, 3; Red-shouldered Hawk, .01; Osprey, .01; Laughing Gull, 1; Least Tern, 1; Chimney Swift, .1; Fish Crow, .5; Boat-tailed Grackle, 1. FINAL DENSITY: 342 adults per 100 acres.

Howard Thomas Odum, Chapel Hill, N. C.

FLOODPLAIN FOREST. Section of an extensive piedmont floodplain forest approaching climax; Oak, 25% (swamp chestnut, swamp red, overcup); hickory,

17%; ash, 18%; red maple, 16%; sweet gum 10%; elm, 8%; black gum 6% with moderately lush growth of saplings and shrubs. Trees averaging 9 inches DBH (oak, 13 inches, hickory, 12 inches, ash, + inches, maple 5 inches, sweet gum 8 inches, elm 11 inches, black gum 5 inches) and averaging about 65 ft. high. A few crown trees have been removed by man in recent years. The area is flooded with a foot or more of water in every month of the year except in drought periods. Pools remain throughout breeding season. SIZE: Approximately 18.5 acres (300x300 yds. with string). TOPOGRAPHY: Flat. EDGE: almost none, the large stream along the border has no different type of vegetation. SURVEYS: Many trips in all seasons since 1938, map completed in April, tree count made in August. COVERAGE: 27 hours on 12 days between March 1st and August 1946 averaging 138 minutes per trip. WEATHER: precipitation normal to slightly above normal; temperatures normal to slightly below normal; area was flooded about 8 times during the period. CENSUS: Wild Turkey, 1N; Yellowbilled Cuckoo, 2P; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 1P; Hairy Woodpecker, 1P; Downy Woodpecker, 1P; Red-billed Woodpecker, 1P; Pileated Woodpecker, 1P; Acadian Flycatcher, 6P; Carolina Chickadee, 1Y; Tufted Titmouse, 1Y; Wood Thrush, 1P; Yellow-throated Vireo, 1P; Red-eyed Vireo, 11P; Blue Gray Gnatcatcher, 1Y; 1P; Carolina Wren, 1Y; Louisiana Water-thrush, 1P; Kentucky Warbler, 1Y, 2P; Hooded Warbler, 3P; Redstart, 1P; Cardinal, 1Y, 1P; Total: 20 species, +2 pairs. DENSITY: 227 pairs per 100 acres. Regular visitors: Parula Warbler, (?) pairs; Barred Owl, 1P; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1P; Turkey Vulture, (?) pairs; Final DENSITY: +97 adults per 100 acres.

HOWARD T. ODUM; MRS. ADELAIDE WALTERS, Chapel Hill, N. C.

YOUNG UPLAND OAK HICKORY FOREST. Many pines remaining in the transition from pine woods to climax oak-hickory; forest crown somewhat open with understory of dogwood, Sourwood, sasssafrass, and redbud averaging 25 feet high; fairly thick undergrowth of saplings and shrubs; thin crown in NW corner allows several pine saplings; trees average about 50 feet high and 10 inches DBH; crown trees 56% oak (white, 15%; scarlet, 14%; black 11%; Southern red, 8%; post, 8%; blackjack, 1%; pine, 17%; white heart hickory, 14%; black gum, 8%, and cedar and tulip poplar 3%; along the stream is a narrow line of tulip poplar (56%) and red maple (44%), 50 ft. high and 9 inches DBH with substratum of magnolia, alder, and lush sapling growth averaging about 15 feet; not disturbed by man for at least 30 years. About 45 crown trees blown down in a thunderstorm since census in 1942. Size: Approximately 25 acres (400x300 yds. with string), of typical piedmont woodland of North Carolina; tract bordered on four sides by similar forest. TOPOGRAPHY: two hills sloping to a small dividing stream. EDGE: Slight effect produced by road and narrow clearing running through the woods along 150 yds of the SW corner; this attracted two pairs. SURVEYS: First breeding census in 1942 with many trips during migrations before. COVERAGE: Total of 39 hours on 27 days between March 1st and July 10th averaging 64 minutes per trip between 5 A.M. and 10 P.M. WEATHER: precipitation normal to slightly above normal; temperatures normal to slightly below normal. CENSUS: Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 1P; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1Y; Hairy Woodpecker, 1N; Down Woodpecker, 1N, 1P; Crested Flycatcher, 1P; Acaddia Flycatcher, 1N, 2P; Wood Pewee, 1P; Carolina Chickadee, 1N; Tufted Titmouse, 1P; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2N; Wood Thrush: 10Y; Yellow-throated Vireo, 1P; Red-eyed Vireo, 1Y, 6P; Pine Warbler, 1N, 1Y, 1P; Ovenbird, 2P; Summer Tanager, 1Y, 1P; Total: 16 species, 39 pairs. DENSITY: 156 pairs per 100 acres. Regular visitors: Broadwinged Hawk, 1P; Blue Jay, 1P; Chimney Swift, (?) pairs; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 1P; Barred Owl, 1P; Turkey Vulture, (?) pairs; Crow, (?) pairs. FINAL DENSITY: 368 adult per 100 acres.

HOWARD T. ODUM,
Chapel Hill, N. C.

With the Editor

NATURE AND THE CHILD—Is the title of an article by Charlotte Hilton Green, in the May, 1946, issue of *Nature Magazine* (vol. 39, no. 5, p. 264-267), which will be of considerable interest and value to teachers and others who are interested in nature work with children.

WILD DUCK POPULATION OF U. S.—Has decreased from approximately 125,000,000 in 1944 to some 80,000,000 this year due to drought conditions in the north central states and Canada, and overshooting in 1945, according to a report in *Science News Letter* (October 26, 1946).

MOVING PICTURES OF BIRDS: If you are interested in colored or black and white, 16mm. moving pictures of birds you will be interested in the National Audubon Society's recent mimeographed list. For a copy address: Audubon Rental Film Library, 1000 Fifth Ave., New York 28, N. Y.

ERNEST THOMPSON SETON—Died at his home in Seton Village, New Mexico, October 23, at the age of 86 years. British born, Canada reared, world-famous as author, artist, and lecturer, since 1898, when his "*Wild Animals I Have Known*," quickly became a best seller, Seton has devoted more than half a century to depicting wild life, on canvas and in print, "so people would come to know and enjoy animals without killing them off." He was one of the world's top authorities on wild life and Indian lore. He founded the Woodcraft League for boys and girls interested in the outdoors, and, in 1910, was chairman of the committee which established the Boy Scouts of America. From his hundreds of lecture appearances, thousands of persons young and old had become familiar with his white mane and his waxed moustache.

NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE FEDERATION—Has started a campaign to raise $25,000 to pay for advertising and publicity to put over the proposed law for improving the North Carolina Division of Game and Inland Fisheries and separating this large division—the only one which pays its own way (to the tune of perhaps $500,000 a year)—from the half dozen other divisions of the State Department of Conservation and Development. E. J. Stoker, Secretary of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation stated that 40% of the $25,000 was raised during the first two weeks of November and that pledges are coming in very satisfactorily. A total of 102 wildlife clubs have been organized over 96 counties, giving the federation a total membership of 16,000. Surely many interested people have followed the progress of these recent efforts to conserve and improve what is left of North Carolina's sadly depleted wildlife resources. The *High Point Enterprise*, for some reason or other, believes "the leadership of the federation has, we fear done the sport an injury which will take years to remedy, regardless of which side wins the fight before the next legislature." As a matter of fact, even Lynn Nesbit, though somewhat grudgingly, admits the general appreciation of the benefits of the "needling" job done by the North Carolina Wildlife Federation. Which apparently has really had considerable effect, even if the Federation does not succeed in securing the adoption of the plan, apparently so successful in some other states, of creating an independent division of game and inland fisheries.

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Statesville Audubon Club: P—Miss Nancy B. Eliason; V-P—Miss Grace Anderson; S—Mrs. Calhoun Ramsey; T—Mrs. Earl Davis.

Tryon Bird Club: P—G. H. Holmes; S-T—Katherine D. Hamilton.

Wilmington Bird Club: P—Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, 5 Lake Forest Parkway; Honorary President—Theodore G. Empie; V-P—Miss Helen Lovering; S—Mrs. Gregor Rohwer, 260 Lake Forest Parkway; T—Warwick R. Baker; Sec. Jr. Work—Miss Anne Blackwell Payne.

Winston-Salem Bird Club: P—Henry Magie; S-T—Wm. S. Rothrock, 2434 Stockton St.; Directors—Charles H. Babcock, Thurmond Chatham, Jr., Richard J. Reynolds, II.